



distantjourneys

Australia · New Zealand · South Africa

Guided Touring Holidays
2017 & 2018

A warm welcome awaits...

At Distant Journeys, we use our extensive experience and expertise to offer you a wonderful choice of touring holidays to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, operated at a leisurely pace and providing you with unrivalled flexibility and value for money. We tailor our itineraries to the tastes of UK travellers, and our aim is simple - to make every moment of your holiday as memorable as it should be.

Over 50 years in the industry

Our Directors, who previously brought you Journeys of Distinction and Go Touring, have over 50 years combined travel industry experience and are true escorted touring experts. Between them they have created an exciting style of flexible touring holiday, giving you the chance to create a holiday which is perfect for you. Many months of meticulous planning go into delivering touring holidays of exceptional standards and unbelievable value.

Exceptional service remains at the heart of everything we do

Our friendly travel professionals are qualified Australian, New Zealand and South African specialists and are happy to share their passion for these destinations with you at any time. What's more, the exceptional service we provide has resulted in a customer satisfaction rating, independently verified by Feefo, of 99%.

Book with confidence and peace of mind

Fully bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority, ATOL no. 10913, you can book in confidence knowing not only are you securing your place on the best touring experience, but your money is also 100% safe!

We hope to welcome you on a Distant Journeys holiday very soon.



Richard Hanson Simon Whittle Andrew Laycock

“ We wanted to see as much as we could. Distant Journeys made all this possible. They took away any worries we might have had.

When you get back and look at all the photos - you can say ‘Yes I was there, and I did that thanks to Distant Journeys’. ”

Mr and Mrs Bridge, Lancashire

Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Contents



Sydney Harbour

The Distant Journeys difference

A dozen reasons to choose Distant Journeys	6-7
Exceptional value	8-9
Hand-picked hotels	10-11
Unforgettable experiences	12-13
Freedom and flexibility	14-15

Our leisurely and flexible tours

22-day Wonders of Australia	16-25
29-day The Very Best of Australia	26-37
23-day Magnificent New Zealand	38-47
28-day Highlights of Australia & New Zealand	48-57
Australia & New Zealand combination tours	58-61
17-day Spectacular South Africa	62-71
Victoria Falls extension	72-73

Helpful information

Hotel directory	74-79
Choose your airlines and stopover	80-83
Our partner airlines	84-85
Helpful travel information	86-87
Booking conditions	88-91

Your holiday is fully protected



All the flights and flight-inclusive holidays in this brochure are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate

A dozen reasons to choose Distant Journeys

1. Uncompromising quality, exceptional value

A Distant Journeys holiday includes so much at an unbeatable price: scheduled international flights, a choice of included stopovers on Australia and New Zealand holidays, overseas transfers, expertly chosen hotels, daily breakfast, experienced local Tour Managers and Coach Captains, and many amazing excursions.

Plus, you'll even get the little extras included you might not expect; like hotel portorage and a welcome drink in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

2. Carefully selected hotels

You'll be delighted by your hotels, which typically have four star ratings. All are named in the brochure, so you know exactly where you will be staying, and all have been carefully selected by our Directors for their quality, comfort and great location.

3. Specialists in leisurely and flexible touring

Our Directors have over 50 years combined specialist experience organising touring holidays. We know the countries we feature intimately and understand what it takes to create the perfect touring experience, ensuring fond memories that will last a lifetime. What's more, each of our UK based travel experts is a qualified Australia, New Zealand and South Africa specialist.

4. The freedom to explore

Whilst our itineraries are tailored to the tastes of United Kingdom guests, we appreciate that everybody is different. Whether you love nature and wildlife, food and drink, history and culture or active adventure, Distant Journeys gives you the freedom to tailor your holiday in a way that suits you.

5. Expert Tour Managers and Coach Captains

Our Tour Managers and Coach Captains have just the right balance of organisational skills and a warm friendly personality. They are focussed on one main goal - to help deliver the perfect holiday for you.

6. Flexible included stopovers

To make your journey to Australia or New Zealand even more of an adventure, you may choose from a range of fascinating and included two night stopovers on your outward journey at no extra cost. Options include Singapore, Bangkok and Dubai.



Bangkok



Barossa Valley, South Australia



On safari, South Africa

7. Fly from your local airport

For your convenience, we are extremely pleased to offer you a wide selection of local UK airports to choose from, travelling with some of the world's leading scheduled airlines, without paying a penny extra.

8. Single traveller savings

We're delighted to offer most of our holidays with no single room supplement, through our Happy to Share option. And should you wish to enjoy a room on your own, don't worry - our rooms for single occupancy are also excellent value.

9. Independent reviews

Our customers have given Distant Journeys a 99% satisfaction rating, which has been independently verified by Feefo.

feefo 218 reviews
Service Rating: **99%**
05 August 2016

10. Fantastic early booking offers

On top of the unbeatable value and flexibility of a Distant Journeys holiday, if you book early you will also enjoy amazing savings on homebound stopovers or excursions. To see our current range of offers, visit our website www.distantjourneys.co.uk or call our expert team on 01695 577 961.

11. No surcharge guarantee

We guarantee that absolutely no surcharge will be added to the price you pay once your booking has been confirmed, irrespective of any fluctuation in currency exchange rates, increases in international air fares or increases in other costs associated with your holiday, unless these costs are imposed by the British or an overseas government.

12. Fully bonded for your protection and peace of mind

Distant Journeys holidays are fully bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority, ATOL number 10913. So you can book in total confidence knowing that, in the unlikely event that something goes wrong, your money is 100% safe.



Exceptional value with so much included

At Distant Journeys, our aim is to offer exceptional value without compromising on the quality of your experience. We only take bookings directly from our customers, avoiding expensive travel agency commissions and allowing us to pass those savings on to you.

So much included in the price

To get your holiday off to the best possible start, you have a choice of UK departure airports and will travel with an award-winning scheduled airline, with all on-board meals and drinks included. It continues with a choice of included two night stopovers on Australia or New Zealand holidays, which not only provides a welcome break in your journey, but also gives you a chance to explore a new and exciting destination.

Each hotel on a Distant Journeys holiday has been carefully selected by our Directors to make sure you make the most of each destination and enjoy comfortable surroundings. A daily breakfast is included along with a selection of other meals, and all transfers, hotel portorage and the services of an experienced Tour Manager or Coach Captain are included too.

'Once in a lifetime' experiences

On a Distant Journeys holiday, you'll see all the sights you would hope for - plus you'll enjoy experiences you might not expect to find on such a reasonably priced holiday.

For example, you would not expect to find an all-inclusive rail journey on-board The Ghan or Rovos Rail. Nor would you expect to enjoy a wonderful overnight cruise on-board Milford Mariner, as it sails spectacular Milford Sound. These amazing experiences are all included in your holiday price and are part of our commitment to provide you with memories you will treasure forever.

Happy to Share - single traveller savings

If you are travelling on your own, a Distant Journeys holiday not only gives you an opportunity to meet like-minded people and enjoy plenty of 'me time', it also provides great savings through our Happy to Share option.

Guests taking our Happy to Share option will share a room on holiday with a single traveller of the same gender and will avoid paying a single occupancy supplement. Simply choose our Happy to Share option at the time of booking where it's available, and if we cannot match you with another single traveller of the same gender on your departure, you'll enjoy a room on your own, at no extra cost.

Rewarding early bookers

Our philosophy is simple: the earlier you book, the better the offer you will enjoy. We will never discount our holidays at the last minute, so by booking early you can relax in the knowledge that you are enjoying the best possible price.

Red Kangaroo, New South Wales



Game viewing, South Africa



What's included

- International and overseas domestic scheduled flights
- A choice of UK departure airports
- A selection of two night outbound stopovers on Australia and New Zealand holidays
- Overseas airport transfers
- Superior hotels in great locations
- Daily breakfasts worth up to £418 per person
- Experienced local Tour Managers or Coach Captains
- Amazing excursions and extra meals as detailed
- All pre-payable airport taxes
- All hotel portorage
- No surcharge guarantee
- ATOL protection for your holiday

Hand-picked hotels

perfectly located

Southern Sun Waterfront, Cape Town



All Distant Journeys hotels are carefully selected by our Directors, who over many years have gained a wealth of experience in understanding and appreciating exactly what elements of a hotel work best on a touring holiday. Location and quality are always paramount considerations. We strive to provide the best of both without it costing the earth.

Location, location, location

When you travel with Distant Journeys, you can relax in the knowledge that each of your hotels has been chosen to allow you to make the most of each destination you visit. Where many other operators may select hotels in a city's outlying districts, Distant Journeys will always accommodate you at the very heart of the attractions.

Take Cairns for instance and the fabulous DoubleTree by Hilton, located right on Cairns Esplanade and a few minutes stroll to all the attractions and eateries this cosmopolitan town has to offer. On our Spectacular South Africa tour, for example, you will stay in the wonderfully situated Southern Sun Waterfront, just minutes away from the vibrant Victoria and Alfred Waterfront in Cape Town.

When staying in more rural areas, Distant Journeys has selected accommodation that really makes the most of the surrounding landscapes, such as the Scenic Hotel in Franz Josef, which enjoys a secluded location, with lovely views of the nearby mountains and rugged terrain.

Excellent quality and exceptional value

The majority of your hotels have official four star ratings, but as we tell you the name of each hotel you will stay in, why not take a look at the hotel websites for more details? We're sure you'll be delighted by their quality and great locations.

You will notice as you view the list of hotels in our hotel directory, found on pages 74 - 79, we have added our own personal rating next to the local star rating. As quality ratings vary from country to country, we feel it is important to provide you with our own opinion, based on our experience and understanding of UK guests' expectations.



Scenic Hotel, Franz Josef



DoubleTree by Hilton

Unforgettable experiences

memories that will last a lifetime

Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are spectacular destinations for your holiday, and Distant Journeys include a series of amazing experiences and journeys to help you fully appreciate these incredible countries.

A new adventure every day

In Australia for example, you will explore vibrantly coloured marine life and the beautiful coral of the Great Barrier Reef and discover Sydney's spectacular harbour during a lunch cruise. And while in New Zealand you will cross the imposing Southern Alps on a remarkable TranzAlpine rail journey; undoubtedly the most scenic train ride in New Zealand, and arguably one of the most scenic rail journeys anywhere in the world.

The Ghan

Imagine Australia's fabled outback unfolding before you as you enjoy a leisurely dining experience on-board The Ghan. As guests in the Gold Service carriages, you will enjoy the romance of a bygone era with every modern comfort. The journey is all-inclusive, with fine à la carte meals freshly prepared by the on-board chefs, served in the delightful Queen Adelaide Restaurant. At any time of day or evening, you are more than welcome to head to the lounge to relax and enjoy a wide selection of complimentary drinks and chat with your fellow travellers.

Milford Mariner

With Distant Journeys, you enjoy the ultimate Milford Sound experience, spending a night aboard the Milford Mariner and waking up to a new day in one of the most beautiful places on earth. The relaxing cruise allows plenty of time to explore Milford Sound's spectacular waterfalls, rainforest, mountains and wildlife, with a chance to join the ship's nature guide and discover the fiord in tender craft (small boats) and kayaks.

Rovos Rail

Known as 'The most luxurious train in the world', Rovos Rail in South Africa cannot fail to impress with its luxurious accommodation and excellent service. The rebuilt carriages contain spacious suites, finished with elegant décor and first class amenities. An enthusiastic team of chefs prepare excellent cuisine, served in the charming surroundings of the dining car, and every alcoholic and non-alcoholic drink is included throughout your journey.

Observation Car, Rovos Rail



Outback Explorer Lounge, The Ghan



Milford Mariner, Milford Sound

Freedom & flexibility styled just for you

*Freedom and flexibility combined with
the benefits of an organised tour.*

Truly the best of both worlds!



Hong Kong



Hot air ballooning, Alice Springs

When it comes to tailoring your guided touring holiday to the way you want it, Distant Journeys provides freedom and true flexibility at no extra cost. Imagine being able to enjoy all the benefits of travelling with a group of like-minded people; the laughs, the camaraderie, the security and peace of mind. On top of this, you also have a huge number of ways in which you can tailor your holiday so that it's perfect for you.

Fly from your local airport

To get your holiday off to the best possible start, Distant Journeys offers a selection of UK airports for your scheduled international flights at no extra cost. On our Australia and New Zealand holidays you may choose to travel from London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow, without paying a penny extra. And on our Spectacular South Africa tour you have the option of London Heathrow, Manchester, Leeds Bradford, Newcastle, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast.

A choice of included stopovers

A two night outbound stopover is included on all our holidays to Australia and New Zealand, so whichever holiday or airline you choose, there's nothing extra to pay. Your options, dependent on your choice of holiday, include Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai - you decide and we'll take care of the rest. What's more, early bookers will also enjoy a fabulous offer on a homebound stopover. More information may be found on pages 80 - 85.

Freedom Days

For an escorted tour to be truly memorable, we believe you should have the freedom to personalise your touring experience to suit your interests. From adventurous activities like sailing an America's Cup yacht in Auckland, to a hot air balloon flight over the Australian Outback or sampling wines in Stellenbosch, South Africa, Distant Journeys provides Freedom Days for you to spend as you please. And you don't have to decide now - for most activities and excursions you can make your choices whilst you are on tour.

Extend your holiday

You may wish to combine your holiday with a visit to see family and friends, explore another place within your chosen destination or add on a trip to Victoria Falls from South Africa. We will be happy to arrange your flights for you - it's all part of the service.



Cape Winelands, South Africa

Wonders of Australia

22 days from only £4,395 per person

Australia – a land so vast and timeless, where ancient Aboriginal cultures blend with modern life to create one of the most cosmopolitan and friendly nations on earth. Australia is a country of great contrasts and immense beauty and The Wonders of Australia tour offers a fabulous way to explore this amazing country at a relaxed pace. From the glitter of Sydney and Melbourne, to the haunting splendour of the outback – we visit all the must-see sights, including four nights in tropical Cairns, the ideal base to visit the Great Barrier Reef.

Including a choice of outbound stopovers, an overnight journey on-board 'the legendary Ghan', and guided throughout Australia by your experienced Distant Journeys Tour Manager, you can be sure the Wonders of Australia will create memories that will last a lifetime.



Tour Highlight

The Ghan



This tour includes a fabulous overnight journey through the Australian outback on-board the legendary Ghan, with all meals and selected drinks included.

What's included

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights with Qantas / Emirates
- Depart from London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow at no additional cost
- All domestic flights within Australia
- Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available on selected routes for a supplement

Great choice of included stopovers

- Your choice of two night outbound stopover in Singapore or Dubai
- Your stopover includes airport transfers, accommodation, daily breakfast and a sightseeing tour

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior hotels in great locations, as detailed in the itinerary
- All-inclusive overnight accommodation on-board The Ghan

Many meals included

- Daily breakfast included, worth £301 per person
- Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

All-inclusive on the Ghan

- Lunch, dinner and breakfast included
- Selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks included

Unforgettable experiences included

- Sightseeing tours in Singapore, Melbourne, Adelaide, Alice Springs and Sydney
- Uluru (Ayers Rock) at sunset and sunrise
- Full day on the Great Barrier Reef
- Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

We include even more

- Services of an experienced local Tour Manager
- All hotel portage
- All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty
- No surcharge guarantee
- ATOL protection for your holiday

feefo 135 reviews
Product Rating: **99%**
05 August 2016



Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge

To find out more visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

To book your holiday call 01695 577 961

Wonders of Australia

Days 1 to 7 Singapore - Melbourne



Flinders Street, Melbourne



Merlion, Singapore

Day 1 - Depart UK

Depart from the UK airport most convenient for you with Qantas / Emirates, at no extra cost: London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2 - Singapore, 2 nights

All flights to Singapore will travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Singapore and transfer to the four star Copthorne Kings Hotel, situated in an enviable position close to the banks of the Singapore River. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative Stopover - Dubai

We have based days 2 - 4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Alternatively you may choose to stop in Dubai for the same price. All stopovers include transfers to and from the hotel, daily breakfast and a city sightseeing tour. If choosing Dubai, flight timings vary - please speak with one of our personal travel experts for more details.

Day 3 - Singapore

Known as 'the crossroads of Asia', Singapore is a city where east meets west; a cosmopolitan melting pot with an inspirational identity. This morning enjoy a tour of this wonderful city. Included is a stop at Merlion Park and the impressive views of Marina Bay, the historic Civic District, Thian Hock Keng Temple and the fabulous orchid gardens

set within Singapore's botanical gardens. Return to the hotel where the rest of our day is free to spend as we please. **Breakfast included**

Day 4 - Depart Singapore

A day at leisure in Singapore until it's time to leave for our evening flight to Melbourne. Possibly enjoy high tea at Raffles or explore the wonderful Gardens by the Bay. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 5 - Melbourne, 3 nights

After clearing customs and collecting our luggage this morning, we take a city tour of Melbourne. Sights include Captain Cook's Cottage (optional entry at own expense), Victoria Markets, Federation Square, the MCG and Rod Laver Arena. We also head out of the city to see the waterside suburbs of St. Kilda and Port Melbourne. We spend our first three nights in Australia at the four star Mercure Treasury Gardens, situated in a wonderful location, just opposite Fitzroy Gardens. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 6 - Melbourne Freedom Day

This is our first Freedom Day, where we can choose to relax or explore as we please. Our Distant Journeys Tour Manager will be on hand to help with advice on things to do, where to eat, make any arrangements and book excursions for you to further explore the area. For example, we have the opportunity to take a trip to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Fairy Penguins, to view the

Penguin Parade. Alternatively, take the Puffing Billy steam train through the Blue Dandenong Ranges, explore the city's most famous sporting landmarks or take dinner on the city's historic tramcar. **Breakfast included**

Day 7 - Melbourne Freedom Day

With so much to do and see in and around Melbourne, a further Freedom Day is an opportunity to enjoy an optional tour along one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives, the internationally renowned Great Ocean Road. The full day optional tour begins in Torquay (home to the surfing paradise of Bells Beach) and meanders along the dramatic southwest coastline of Victoria to the impressive Twelve Apostles. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Fairy Penguin Parade



Take a trip to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Fairy Penguins, to view the 'Penguin Parade'.



“ We would not hesitate recommending Distant Journeys to anyone wanting a flexible trip to Australia - this is a fantastic tour with an excellent tour company, at a good price. Thank you Distant Journeys. ”

Mr Thomas, Derbyshire



Wonders of Australia

Days 8 to 13 Adelaide - The Ghan - Alice Springs - Uluru



The Ghan



Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Day 8 - Adelaide, 2 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Adelaide. Upon arrival, we shall take a sightseeing tour of the city. We will be introduced to Adelaide's streets, historic buildings and the attractive parks and gardens that surround the city. Included is a drive along Brabham Straight, a section of Australia's first international grand prix circuit. Later, we arrive at the excellent Stamford Plaza for our next two nights. **Breakfast included**

Day 9 - Adelaide Freedom Day

A Freedom Day to spend as you please. Take a look around Adelaide on foot or perhaps take an optional tour to the famous wine growing region of the Barossa Valley. Alternatively visit Kangaroo Island, situated off the Fleurieu Peninsula, which offers a unique touring experience combining friendly, native wildlife with natural, unspoilt wilderness. **Breakfast included**

Day 10 - Tour Highlight The Ghan, Overnight

A morning at leisure until it's time to make our way to Adelaide Parklands Rail Terminal in time for a magnificent overland journey to Alice Springs, in the heart of Australia's outback. Known for being one of the world's most iconic train journeys, The Ghan was named after the Afghan cameliers who once traversed this route. Our twin accommodation is in Gold Service, air-conditioned, private sleepers, all with

upper and lower bunk beds, en-suite shower, wash basin and toilet. Single travellers will stay in single cabins, which are configured as a lounge chair, converting into a bed at night, with shared bathroom facilities at the end of each carriage. Whilst on board, all meals are included as are a wide selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. During lunch, marvel at the ever changing landscape as we journey north. This evening, following dinner, sleep to the rhythm of the rails. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected onboard drinks included**

Day 11 - Alice Springs, 2 nights

Awake this morning to notice the contrast between the fiery red earth and the cobalt blue skies before enjoying an off train experience as The Ghan makes a short stop in Marla - in the middle of the Australian Outback. In just 25 hours aboard The Ghan we will have covered 1,555 kilometres and passed golden wheatfields, vast sheep stations, rugged mountain ranges, salt lakes and the fierce Simpson Desert. Upon arrival into Alice Springs we will board our coach and enjoy a sightseeing tour of the outback's largest town. Visits include the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the School of the Air, and the Old Telegraph Station, now a museum and the site of the old springs from which Alice gets its name. Later in the afternoon we arrive at the four star DoubleTree by Hilton. **Breakfast included**

Day 12 - Alice Springs Freedom Day

Our day is free to relax or explore the outback. You may wish to take an optional hot air balloon trip over the outback landscapes. Alternatively an excursion to the western MacDonnell Ranges is an excellent opportunity to get a real picture of life in the outback. The full day tour takes us through the wondrous and picturesque scenery of Simpson's Gap, and the towering granite walls of Standley Chasm. **Breakfast included**

Day 13 - Tour Highlight Uluru (Ayers Rock), Overnight

Leaving Alice Springs, we head west through amazing outback landscapes as we travel along the scenic Stuart and Lasseter Highways and make our way to Uluru, the icon of Australia's outback, and the world's largest monolith. Rising from the flat surrounding scrubland, Uluru is a site of deep cultural significance to the Aboriginal communities of the Northern Territory. Relax and enjoy a glass of sparkling wine whilst witnessing the changing colours as the sun begins to set. It's truly a photographer's delight. Overnight at the four star Desert Gardens Hotel. **Breakfast included**

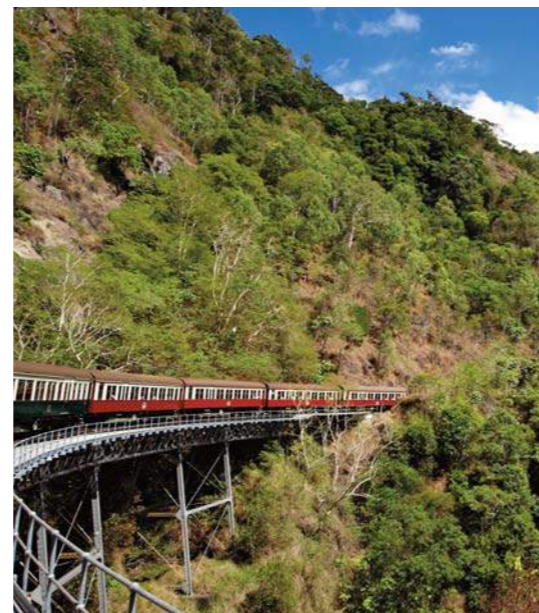
Wonders of Australia

Days 14 to 20 Cairns - Sydney

distantjourneys



Great Barrier Reef



Kuranda Railway



Sydney Harbour Bridge

Day 14 - Cairns, 4 nights

For early risers, a dawn visit to the rock has been arranged. Seeing Uluru at sunrise, from a different position and a different light, offers a totally new perspective on the changing colours and character of the rock. We return to the hotel for breakfast, prior to a gentle stroll around significant areas of the rock to learn more about its historical and cultural importance. Later, we visit the impressive series of rounded sandstone domes known as the Olgas. Afterwards we leave for the airport in time for our flight to Cairns. Upon arrival we shall transfer to the centrally located four star DoubleTree by Hilton, which will be our home for the next four nights. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

Day 15 - Tour Highlight

Great Barrier Reef

A holiday to Australia would not be complete without a visit to the Great Barrier Reef. Its vibrantly coloured marine life and breathtakingly beautiful coral make this World Heritage site a must see for all visitors. During our full day Great Barrier Reef excursion, we board our high-speed catamaran and journey out to the Marine World platform located on the Outer Reef. Snorkel in the sheltered coral lagoon, or if you prefer to stay dry, view the reef from the semi-submersible reef viewer, glass bottom boat or underwater observatory. With five hours at the reef

there is plenty of time to do it all. For the more adventurous, there are a number of activities available at an additional cost, including scuba diving (no experience necessary), joining the marine biologist on a guided snorkel safari, or soaring above the reef on a spectacular scenic helicopter flight. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 16 - Cairns Freedom Day

Although today has been left free you may wish to take an optional trip to Kuranda. Beginning with a scenic railway journey to the picturesque market town of Kuranda, 'the village in the rainforest' is a lovely place to while away a few hours visiting the daily markets, the butterfly sanctuary or the Koala Gardens. The tour returns to Cairns by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy. To finish the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional Tjapukai aboriginal culture with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Kuranda Railway & Skyrail



A scenic railway journey to Kuranda returning by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy.

Day 17 - Cairns Freedom Day

Another free day to enjoy and relax in tropical northern Queensland. Surrounded by rainforest and mountains, Cairns boasts over 200 walking tracks; there are also numerous interesting museums and art galleries to explore, as well as the option to take a hot air balloon ride over the Atherton Tablelands. If you prefer to venture further afield, a day trip to the nearby World Heritage listed Daintree Rainforest, which is the oldest rainforest in the world, is a fascinating experience. The tour gives a wonderful insight into rainforest's unique flora and fauna, including a guided walk with an aboriginal guide and a cruise spotting saltwater crocodiles. **Breakfast included**

Day 18 - Sydney, 3 nights

This morning we make our way to Cairns airport in time for our flight to Sydney. Upon arrival we head to the four star North Sydney Harbourview Hotel, overlooking Sydney Harbour Bridge. Sydney is a city that takes full advantage of its natural setting - its sparkling harbour is host to the world famous Sydney Harbour Bridge and the spectacular Sydney Opera House. Sydney's suburbs are blessed with lush native bushland and pristine sandy beaches. Add to this the excellent restaurants and cafes, endless shopping opportunities and a vibrant culture and it's very easy to understand why Sydney is one of the world's favourite cities. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

Day 19 - Tour Highlight

Sydney - Sightseeing & Luncheon cruise

This morning's sightseeing tour begins with a drive through some of Sydney's most fashionable inner city suburbs en route to Bondi Beach. Travel by Double Bay and Rushcutters Bay as we make our way back to the city centre. We journey via Hyde Park and Parliament House to Mrs Macquarie's Chair in the Royal Botanical Gardens, where we stop for the classic photo opportunity of the Opera House and Harbour Bridge. We complete our tour in the best possible way - enjoying a luncheon cruise around Sydney's beautiful harbour. The views of

the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and the many dream homes nestled along the edge of the water are truly amazing. The afternoon has been left free to spend as we please. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 20 - Sydney Freedom Day

Today has been left free, but for those that so desire, we shall be taking an optional trip to the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains. The Blue Mountains are a perfect example of native Australian bushland, with gum trees, majestic peaks and deep gorges stretching as far as the eye can see. Experience the panoramas from a series of lookouts, including Echo Point - the prime position to view the Three Sisters rock formation. The excursion also visits Wentworth Falls and the pretty village of Leura, famous for their annual garden festivals and playing host to many of the region's local artists. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

World Heritage Blue Mountains



Experience the panoramas from a series of lookouts, including Echo Point - the prime position to view the Three Sisters rock formation.

Wonders of Australia

Days 21 to 22 Sydney - UK



Sydney Opera House

Day 21 - Depart Sydney

The day is yours until it's time to depart for the airport, early afternoon. Our flights to our chosen UK airport operate via Dubai where there will be a change of aircraft. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 22 - Arrive UK

This morning we arrive into our chosen airport (London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow) bringing to an end our incredible adventure. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Why not combine with the Magnificent New Zealand tour?

If you wish to make the ultimate journey to Australasia, combining the Wonders of Australia and Magnificent New Zealand tours makes perfect sense.

Please see pages 58-59 for more details.

Homebound stopovers

Two nights from £195 per person

If you would like to stopover on your way home, we have a selection of fabulous stopovers for you to choose from: Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or alternatively, enjoy a stay in Dubai, leaving a relatively short flight back to the UK.

Further information on these stopovers may be found on pages 80 - 85. For full details on flight timings and any special offers on homebound stopovers, please call one of our personal travel experts.

Dubai – 5* Marriott al Jaddaf

Two nights from only £345 pp
To take in the magic, mystery and culture of Arabia perhaps consider a stopover in Dubai, home to the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa.

Hong Kong – 4* Regal Kowloon

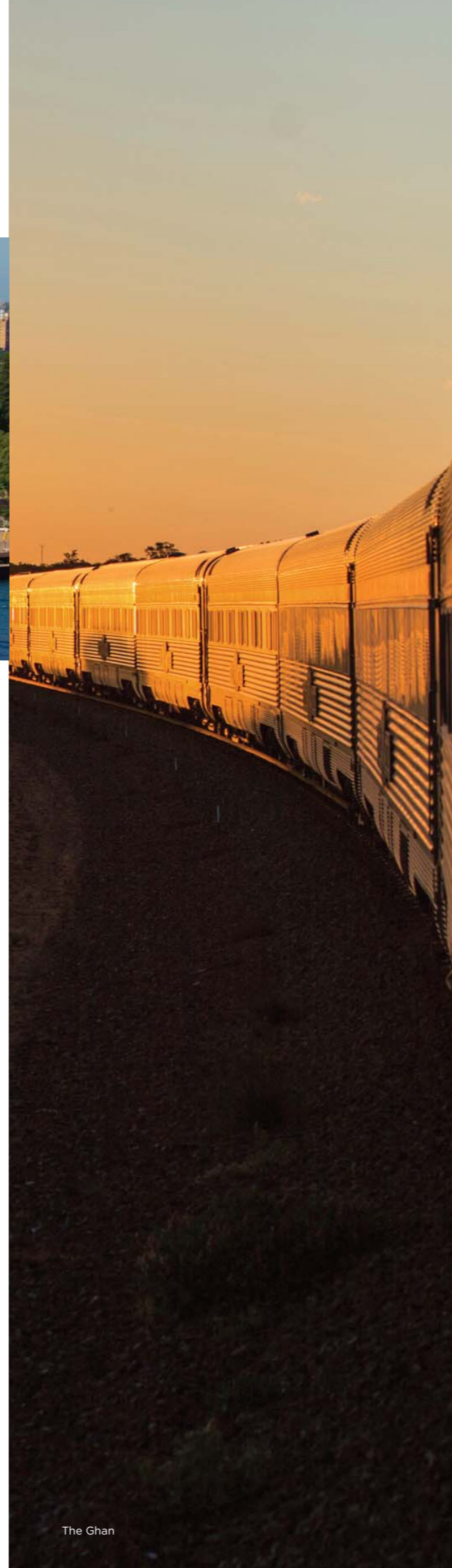
Two nights from only £345 pp
The Far East's number one stopover destination. Be sure to take in a Victoria Harbour cruise and indulge yourselves in the very best street markets, vibrant shops and excellent dining.

Bangkok – 4* Arnoma Hotel

Two nights from only £195 pp
Why not consider a stopover in Bangkok, the 'City of Angels', with its glittering temples, buzzing street markets, indulgent spas and graceful service?

Singapore – 4* Copthorne Kings

Two nights from only £245 pp
Possibly a two night break in the Lion City of Singapore might be on your wish list? A former British trading colony, Singapore perfectly blends ancient eastern with modern western cultures.



Wonders of Australia

Departure dates and prices

2017	2018
28 Apr £4,395	12 Jan £4,895
04 Aug £4,995	26 Jan £4,895
22 Sep £4,795	16 Feb £4,795
06 Oct £4,795	02 Mar £4,745
27 Oct £4,795	13 Apr £4,495
10 Nov £4,795	03 Aug £4,995

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £995

When travelling overnight on The Ghan, passengers booked in a room for single use will be accommodated in single sleeper cabins with wash basin. Showers and toilets are available at the end of each compartment.

Deposit: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Single travellers taking our Happy to Share option will share a room on holiday with a single traveller of the same gender and will avoid paying a single occupancy supplement. Simply choose our Happy to Share option at the time of booking, and if there isn't another single traveller of the same gender on your departure, you'll enjoy a room on your own at no extra cost. Happy to Share guests may be accommodated in a single or twin share cabin on The Ghan.

Visa: £25 per person. To enter Australia, you need an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). We will obtain this on your behalf and the cost will be added to your confirmation invoice.

Homebound stopovers: Homebound stopovers in Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai are available on all dates. The stopovers may be on special offer – please call our travel experts for the most up to date prices and offers.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961



The Very Best of Australia

29 days from only £5,495 per person

If you're going to travel all the way to the other side of the world, you will really want to make the most of your trip. So, to make sure you don't miss out on the country's many highlights and hidden gems, we've put together the ultimate Australian adventure. Introducing, The Very Best of Australia tour...

What makes this tour magical is the diversity of the destinations you'll visit, which allow you to experience all of the country's different cultures and traditions. The incredible cities will give you a taste of modern 'down under', whilst your visit to the outback offers an authentic insight into the country's rugged natural beauty and ancient culture.

As always with a Distant Journeys tour, you'll also enjoy a number of once-in-a-lifetime experiences. For example, you'll have the chance to discover The Great Barrier Reef; explore the wonderful wildlife on Kangaroo Island; spend a night on the legendary Ghan; and enjoy an enchanting cruise on Katherine Gorge.



Tour Highlight

Kangaroo Island



This tour includes a fabulous two night stay on stunning Kangaroo Island, where you will witness friendly, native wildlife amongst natural, unspoilt wilderness.

What's included

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights with Qantas / Emirates
- Depart from London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow at no additional cost
- All domestic flights within Australia
- Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available on selected routes for a supplement

Great choice of included stopovers

- Your choice of two night outbound stopover in Singapore or Dubai
- Your stopover includes airport transfers, accommodation, daily breakfast and a sightseeing tour

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior hotels in great locations, as detailed in the itinerary
- All-inclusive overnight accommodation on-board The Ghan

Many meals included

- Daily breakfast included, worth £418 per person
- Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

All-inclusive on The Ghan

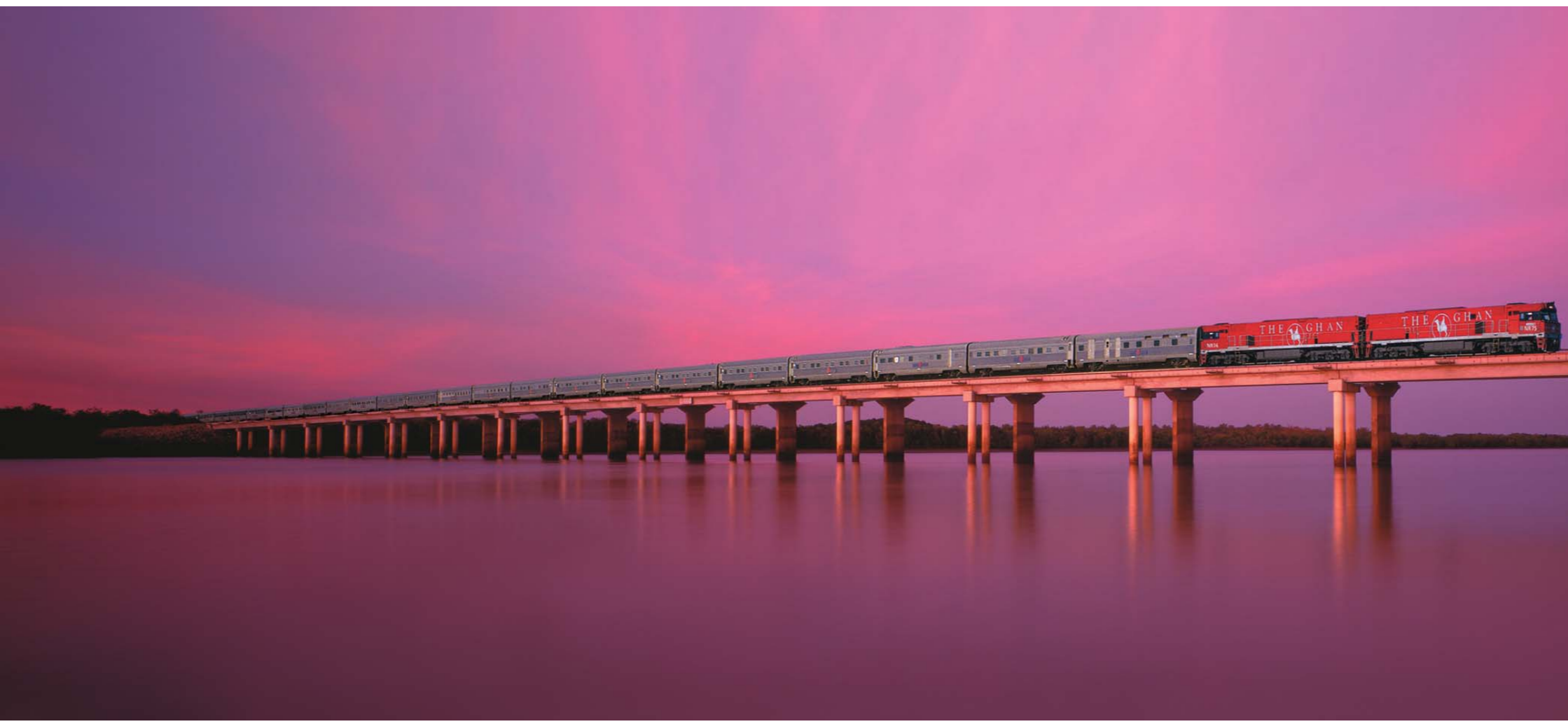
- Dinner, breakfast and lunch included
- Selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks included

Unforgettable experiences included

- Sightseeing tours in Singapore, Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Alice Springs and Sydney
- Full day touring Kangaroo Island
- Uluru (Ayers Rock) at sunset and sunrise
- Katherine Gorge Cruise
- Full day on the Outer Barrier Reef
- Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

We include even more

- Services of an experienced local Tour Manager
- All hotel portage
- All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty
- No surcharge guarantee
- ATOL protection for your holiday



The Very Best of Australia

Days 1 to 12 Singapore - Perth - Adelaide - Kangaroo Island - Melbourne



Perth



Kangaroo Island



Adelaide

Day 1 - Depart UK

Depart from the UK airport most convenient for you with Qantas / Emirates, at no extra cost: London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2 - Singapore, 2 nights

All flights to Singapore will travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Singapore and transfer to the four star Furama Riverfront Hotel, situated in an enviable position close to the banks of the Singapore River. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative Stopover - Dubai

We have based days 2 - 4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Alternatively you may choose to stop in Dubai for the same price. All stopovers include transfers to and from the hotel, daily breakfast and a city sightseeing tour. If choosing Dubai, flight timings vary - please speak with one of our personal travel experts for more details.

Day 3 - Singapore

Known as 'the crossroads of Asia', Singapore is a city where east meets west; a cosmopolitan melting pot with an inspirational identity. This morning enjoy a tour of this wonderful city. Witness the intriguing ethnic quarters where Chinese, Malay and Indian influences fuse to produce Singapore's unique culture. Also visit Singapore's Merlion and the botanical gardens.

Return to the hotel where the rest of our day is free to spend as we please. **Breakfast included**

Day 4 - Perth, 3 nights

A day at leisure in Singapore until it's time to leave for our evening flight to Perth. Possibly visit nearby Sentosa Island or enjoy high tea at Raffles. Upon our arrival into Perth later tonight, clear customs and transfer to the Novotel Langley for our first three nights in Australia. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 5 - Perth

Named 'The friendly city' by tourists from all over the world, Perth is the world's most isolated city and is the capital of Western Australia. Today, we have arranged a tour to explore the city and surrounding area, including a visit to King's Park, with its enchanting wildflowers and bushland, and amazing views over the city's skyline. We will also travel to the nearby port town of Fremantle and enjoy an included visit to the fascinating Maritime Museum. Later, we see the Millionaires Mansions as we return to the hotel with a cruise along the Swan River. **Breakfast included**

Day 6 - Perth Freedom Day

Our first Australian Freedom Day allows us to spend the day as we please. Our Distant Journeys Tour Manager will be on hand to help with advice on things to do, where to eat, make any arrangements and book excursions for you to further explore the area. Perhaps take a cruise to the wineries along the beautiful Swan

River or an optional trip to the Nambung National Park to visit the fascinating limestone formations known as the Pinnacles. However you spend your day - enjoy! **Breakfast included**

Day 7 - Adelaide, 2 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Adelaide, capital of South Australia. Surrounded by grassy parkland, picturesque hills and the Mount Lofty Range, Adelaide could scarcely present a more captivating aspect. Upon arrival, we shall take a sightseeing tour and be introduced to Adelaide's streets, fine Victorian buildings and attractive parks and gardens that surround the city. Included is a drive along Brabham Straight, a section of Australia's first international grand prix circuit. Later, we arrive at the Stamford Plaza for our next two nights. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Nambung National Park



Take an optional tour to the Nambung National Park to visit the fascinating limestone formations known as the Pinnacles.

Day 8 - Adelaide Freedom Day

A Freedom Day to spend as you please. Take a look around Adelaide on foot or perhaps take an optional tour to the famous wine growing region of the Barossa Valley. Alternatively a lunch cruise along the Murray River may be a lovely way to spend a few hours. **Breakfast included**

Day 9 - Kangaroo Island, 2 nights

After a leisurely breakfast, we depart for the delightful seaside village of Glenelg, which sits in Holdfast Bay, a short drive from Adelaide. We continue inland to Mount Lofty lookout for great panoramic views of Adelaide and the plains to the west. We visit Australia's oldest surviving German settlement in the quaint village of Hahndorf, with its tree lined streets and original 'Fachwerk' buildings. Later we travel to the Fleurieu Peninsula, where we board a ferry which takes us to Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island. We make our way to either the Aurora Ozone Hotel or the Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge, both situated in prime positions on Kangaroo Island. **Breakfast included**

Day 10 - Tour Highlight

Kangaroo Island

Our Kangaroo Island adventure commences with a scenic drive to Seal Bay Conservation Park. Here we will walk on the beach amongst a colony of

rare Australian sea lions with a National Parks Ranger. Our next stop is Hanson Bay Sanctuary, where we stroll among eucalypts looking for the wonderful koalas. Spend the afternoon at Flinders Chase National Park, renowned as a sanctuary for native Australian animals including kangaroos, wallabies, koalas and echidnas. The tour of the park will also take us to the rugged southern coastline for a walk on the Remarkable Rocks, which provide us with great photographic opportunities and stunning sea views. We continue to Admirals Arch boardwalk, which takes us down a rugged cliff face to reveal a spectacular rock archway, a natural nursery and safe haven for playful Long-nosed Fur Seals. After a wonderful day spent amongst Australia's very best wildlife, we return to our hotel for a second night. **Breakfast included**

Day 11 - Melbourne, 3 nights

After meeting a variety of Australia's wildlife up close and personal, it's time to make our way back to the mainland by ferry, where we journey to Adelaide in time for our flight to Melbourne. Upon arrival, we shall transfer to the four star Clarion Suites, situated in a wonderful location, just a short stroll from Melbourne's fashionable Southbank. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

Day 12 - Melbourne

The capital of Victoria state and Australia's second largest city, Melbourne's allure lies in the fabulously preserved Victorian architecture of its many public buildings and gracious homes. Enjoy a sightseeing tour this morning including Captain Cook's Cottage (optional entry at own expense), Victoria Markets, Federation Square, the MCG and Rod Laver Arena. We also head out of the city to see the waterside suburbs of St. Kilda and Port Melbourne. This afternoon, we have the opportunity to take an optional trip to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Fairy Penguins, to view the Fairy Penguin Parade. As an alternative, perhaps join the historic Melbourne tramcar for a dining experience like no other. Glide along the scenic streets of Melbourne while enjoying a seasonally-selected menu, fine Australian wine, and a fully-stocked bar. **Breakfast included**



The Very Best of Australia

Days 13 to 17 Melbourne - Uluru - Alice Springs - The Ghan



Melbourne



The Ghan

Day 13 - Melbourne Freedom Day

Take advantage of a Melbourne Freedom Day, where you can choose to relax or explore as you please. For example, we have the opportunity to enjoy an optional tour along one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives, the internationally renowned Great Ocean Road. The full day optional tour begins in Torquay (home to the surfing paradise of Bells Beach) and meanders along the dramatic southwest coastline of Victoria to the impressive Twelve Apostles. Alternatively, take the Puffing Billy steam train through the Blue Dandenong Ranges, or explore the city's most famous sporting landmarks on a guided tour. **Breakfast included**

Day 14 - Uluru, Overnight

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Uluru (Ayers Rock) in Australia's Red Centre. Before landing we may have the opportunity to view the world's largest monolith from our aircraft. Rising from the flat surrounding scrubland, Uluru is a site of deep cultural significance to the Aboriginal communities of the Northern Territory. Upon arrival we shall make our way to the four star Desert Gardens Hotel. Later, we depart for a Rock Base Tour enabling us to discover more about its historical and cultural importance, before stopping to enjoy a glass of sparkling wine whilst witnessing the changing colours of Uluru as the sun begins to set. It's truly a photographer's delight. **Breakfast included**

Day 15 - Alice Springs, 2 nights

This morning we leave for a tour of the impressive series of rounded sandstone domes known at the Olgas, before travelling along the scenic Lasseter and Stuart Highways to Alice Springs. Upon arrival we make our way to the four star DoubleTree by Hilton. **Breakfast included**

Day 16 - Alice Springs Freedom Day

Our day is free to relax or explore the outback. You may wish to take a trip to the western MacDonnell Ranges, which is an excellent opportunity to get a real picture of life in the outback. The full day excursion takes us through the wondrous and picturesque scenery of Simpson's Gap and the towering granite walls of Standley Chasm. **Breakfast included**

Day 17 - Tour Highlight

The Ghan, Overnight

Nestled between the MacDonnell Ranges, Alice Springs is an iconic town made famous by its rich pioneering history and ancient indigenous culture. This morning you may wish to take an adventure in slow motion on an optional hot air balloon trip over the outback landscapes. Or you may prefer to simply relax by the hotel pool. Later, we board our coach and enjoy a sightseeing tour. Visits include the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the School of the Air, and the Old Telegraph Station, now a museum and the site of the old springs from which Alice gets its name.

Later in the afternoon it's time to make our way to Alice Springs Rail Terminal ready for our magnificent overland rail journey to Darwin, on Australia's northern coastline. Known for being one of the world's most iconic rail journeys, The Ghan was named after the Afghan cameleers who once traversed this route. Our twin accommodation is in Gold Service, air-conditioned, private sleepers, all with upper and lower bunk beds, en-suite shower, wash basin and toilet. Single travellers will be accommodated in single cabins, which are configured as a lounge chair by day, converting into a bed at night, with shared bathroom facilities at the end of each carriage. Whilst on board, all our meals are included, as are a wide selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Following dinner in the Queen Adelaide Restaurant, enjoy drinks with your travelling companions in the Outback Explorer Lounge. **Breakfast and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

The Very Best of Australia

Days 18 to 21 Darwin - Cairns - Great Barrier Reef



Outback Explorer Lounge, The Ghan



Katherine Gorge Cruise

Day 18 - Darwin, 2 nights

Following breakfast, The Ghan arrives into Katherine. Here we have the opportunity to visit nearby Nitmiluk National Park, home to the spectacular Katherine Gorge. The gorge is a series of 13 sandstone gorges carved over many millions of years by the Katherine River. As we cruise up the river, calls of the cicada resonate across the water between the towering sandstone cliffs. Listen to stories of how the gorge was named, whilst marvelling at the sheer walls, etched by time and the elements, and home to a myriad of plant and animal life. Afterward return to The Ghan in time for lunch as we continue our journey to Darwin. Upon arrival we transfer to the DoubleTree by Hilton Esplanade situated on Darwin's striking esplanade. **Breakfast and lunch PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 19 - Darwin Freedom Day

Darwin is the capital of Australia's Northern Territory and is known for its laid-back fusion of frontier outpost and modern city. Your day has been left totally free to spend in your own particular way. Perhaps visit the Defence of Darwin Experience, an immersive, interactive multimedia experience telling the story of Darwin's role in World War II - a very important time in Northern Territory history. Alternatively visit the thundering waterfalls, rainforest pockets and sacred

sights of Litchfield National Park. For those wishing to venture further afield, a full day overland or flightseeing excursion to Kakadu National Park can be arranged. **Breakfast included**

Day 20 - Cairns, 4 nights

An early start, as we leave for the airport in time for our one-stop flight to Cairns. Upon arrival we shall transfer to the ideally located four star Pacific International Hotel, which will be our home for the next four nights. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

Day 21 - Tour Highlight Great Barrier Reef

A holiday to Australia would not be complete without a visit to the Great Barrier Reef. Its vibrantly coloured marine life and breathtakingly beautiful coral make this World Heritage site a must see for all visitors. During our full day Great Barrier Reef excursion, we board our high-speed catamaran and journey out to the Marine World platform located on the Outer Reef. Snorkel in the sheltered coral lagoon, or if you prefer to stay dry, view the reef from the semi-submersible reef viewer, glass bottom boat or underwater observatory. With five hours at the reef there is plenty of time to do it all. For the more adventurous, there are a number of activities available at an additional cost, including scuba diving

(no experience necessary), joining the Marine Biologist on a guided snorkel safari, or soaring above the reef on a spectacular scenic helicopter flight. **Breakfast and lunch included**

We recommend

Litchfield National Park



Explore the spectacular beauty of the national park, with its impressive waterfalls and expanses of rainforest.



Great Barrier Reef



The Very Best of Australia

Days 22 to 27 Cairns - Sydney



Sydney Harbour Bridge



Three Sisters, Blue Mountains

Day 22 - Cairns Freedom Day

Although today has been left free, you may wish to take an optional trip to Kuranda. Travelling along the scenic Kuranda railway, see how the track clings to the rockface along a narrow coastal strip. We encounter no less than 40 bridges and 15 tunnels as we make our way to the picturesque market town of Kuranda. Known as 'The village in the rainforest', Kuranda is a lovely place to while away a few hours visiting the daily markets, the butterfly sanctuary or the Koala Gardens. The tour returns to Cairns by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy. To finish the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional Tjapukai aboriginal culture with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. **Breakfast included**

Day 23 - Cairns Freedom Day

Another free day to enjoy and relax in tropical northern Queensland. Surrounded by rainforest and mountains, Cairns boasts over 200 walking tracks; there are also numerous interesting museums and art galleries to explore. If you prefer to venture further afield, we suggest a day trip to the nearby Daintree Rainforest, where the oldest rainforest in the world meets the reef at the World Heritage-listed Cape Tribulation. The tour gives a wonderful insight into the rainforest's unique flora and fauna, including a guided walk with an aboriginal guide and a cruise spotting saltwater crocodiles. Enjoy your day! **Breakfast included**

Day 24 - Sydney, 4 nights

This morning we make our way to Cairns airport in time for our flight to Sydney. Upon arrival we head to the Parkroyal Hotel, situated overlooking vibrant Darling Harbour. Sydney is a city that takes full advantage of its natural setting - its sparkling harbour is host to the world famous Sydney Harbour Bridge, affectionately known as 'the coat hanger' and the spectacular Sydney Opera House. Sydney's suburbs are blessed with lush native bushland and pristine sandy beaches. Add to this the excellent restaurants and cafes, endless shopping opportunities and a vibrant culture and it's very easy to understand why Sydney is one of the world's favourite cities. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

Day 25 - Tour Highlight

Sydney - Sightseeing and luncheon cruise

This morning, our sightseeing tour begins with a drive through some of Sydney's most fashionable inner city suburbs en route to Bondi Beach. Travel by Rushcutters Bay and Double Bay as we make our way back to the city centre. Travel via Hyde Park and Parliament House to Mrs Macquarie's Chair, an exposed sandstone rock cut into the shape of a bench by convicts in 1810, as a gift to Governor Macquarie's wife, Elizabeth. Here we stop for the classic photo opportunity of the world famous Opera House and Harbour Bridge. We complete our tour in the best possible way - enjoying a luncheon cruise around Sydney's beautiful

harbour. The views of the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and the many dream homes nestled along the edge of the water are truly amazing. The afternoon has been left free to spend as we please. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 26 - Sydney Freedom Day

A Sydney Freedom Day to spend as you please. Although today has been left free, for those that so desire, we shall be taking an optional trip to the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains. The Blue Mountains are a perfect example of native Australian bushland, with gum trees, majestic peaks and deep gorges stretching as far as the eye can see. Experience the panoramas from a series of lookouts, including Echo Point - the prime position to view the Three Sisters rock formation. The excursion also visits Wentworth Falls and the pretty village of Leura, famous for their annual garden festivals and playing host to many of the region's local artists. **Breakfast included**

Day 27 - Sydney Freedom Day

A further Freedom Day to experience Sydney in a way that suits you. Take an optional behind the scenes tour of Sydney Opera House, enjoy an exhilarating float plane trip over the harbour, catch up on some shopping, experience sailing an America's Cup yacht or possibly climb the impressive Harbour Bridge. Whatever you wish to do, our Tour Manager will be very happy to help. **Breakfast included**

The Very Best of Australia

Days 28 to 29 Sydney - UK



Sydney Opera House and Circular Quay

Day 28 - Depart Sydney

The day is yours until it's time to depart for the airport. Our flight to our chosen UK airport operates via Dubai, where there will be a change of aircraft.

Breakfast, and in-flight meals and drinks included

Day 29 - Arrive UK

This morning we arrive into our chosen airport (London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow) bringing an end to our incredible adventure. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Why not combine with the Magnificent New Zealand tour?

If you wish to make the ultimate journey to Australasia, combining The Very Best of Australia and Magnificent New Zealand tours makes perfect sense.

Please see pages 60-61 for more details.

Homebound stopovers

Two nights from £195 per person

If you would like to break your journey on the way home, we have a selection of fabulous stopovers for you to choose from: Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or alternatively, enjoy a stay in Dubai, leaving a relatively short flight back to the UK.

Further information on these stopovers may be found on pages 80 - 85. For full details on flight timings and any special offers on homebound stopovers, please call one of our personal travel experts.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf

Two nights from only £345 pp
To take in the magic, mystery and culture of Arabia perhaps consider a stopover in Dubai, home to the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa.

Hong Kong - 4* Regal Kowloon

Two nights from only £345 pp
The Far East's number one stopover destination. Be sure to take in a Victoria Harbour cruise and indulge yourselves in the very best street markets, vibrant shops and excellent dining.

Bangkok - 4* Arnoma Hotel

Two nights from only £195 pp
Why not consider a stopover in Bangkok, the City of Angels, with its glittering temples, buzzing street markets, indulgent spas and graceful service?

Singapore - 4* Furama Riverfront

Two nights from only £245 pp
Possibly a two night break in the Lion City of Singapore might be on your wish list? A former British trading colony, Singapore perfectly blends ancient eastern with modern western cultures.



Very Best of Australia

Departure dates and prices

2017		2018	
22 Apr	£5,495	06 Jan	£5,995
29 Jul	£6,195	20 Jan	£5,995
23 Sep	£5,895	17 Feb	£5,995
07 Oct	£5,995	03 Mar	£5,895
04 Nov	£5,995	14 Apr	£5,595
		04 Aug	£6,195

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £1,495

When travelling overnight on The Ghan, passengers booked in a room for single use will be accommodated in single sleeper cabins with wash basin. Showers and toilets are available at the end of each compartment.

Deposit: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Single travellers taking our Happy to Share option will share a room on holiday with a single traveller of the same gender and will avoid paying a single room supplement. Simply choose our Happy to Share option at the time of booking, and if there isn't another single traveller of the same gender on your departure, you'll enjoy a room on your own at no extra cost. Happy to Share guests may be accommodated in a single or twin share accommodation on The Ghan.

Visa: £25 per person. To enter Australia, you need an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). We will obtain this on your behalf and the cost will be added to your confirmation invoice.

Inbound stopovers: Inbound stopovers in Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai are available on all dates. The stopovers may be on special offer - please call our travel experts for the most up to date prices and offers.

Alternative hotel: Please note, the 6th January 2018 tour will stay at the Rendezvous Hotel in Melbourne.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961



Magnificent New Zealand

23 days from only £3,695 per person

New Zealand is like no other place on earth – packed full of amazing and diverse landscapes. New Zealand's North Island is dominated by ancient volcanoes, stunning coastal scenery and pristine beaches. The South Island possesses high mountain peaks, deep fiords, lush rainforests and magnificent glaciers.

A Distant Journeys leisurely touring holiday visits all the must see attractions during our comprehensive 23 day tour. We explore the country's breath-taking scenery, vibrant cities and rich Maori culture – and experience an unforgettable overnight cruise aboard Milford Mariner, on Milford Sound.

Our unhurried itinerary generally includes two or three night stops in each destination, allowing plenty of Freedom Days to fully explore each area at your own pace.



Tour Highlight

Overnight cruise on Milford Sound



Distant Journeys have included an overnight cruise on Milford Sound, undoubtedly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

What's included

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights with Qantas / Emirates from London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow
- Alternatively fly with Singapore Airlines from London Heathrow at no additional cost
- Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available on selected international routes for a supplement

Great choice of included stopovers

- Your choice of two night outbound stopover in Singapore, Dubai or Bangkok (dependent on choice of airline)
- Your stopover includes airport transfers, accommodation, daily breakfast and a sightseeing tour

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior hotels in great locations, as detailed in the itinerary
- Overnight accommodation on-board the Milford Mariner

Many meals included

- Daily breakfast included, worth £306 per person
- Maori Hangi dinner in Rotorua
- Farm visit including barbecue lunch

Overnight cruise on Milford Sound

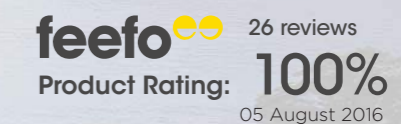
- Private en-suite cabins on-board the Milford Mariner
- Dinner and breakfast included

Unforgettable experiences included

- Sightseeing tours in Singapore, Auckland, Rotorua, Queenstown, Dunedin and Christchurch
- 'Hole in the Rock' cruise in the Bay of Islands
- Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve
- Maori concert
- Scenic rail journey on-board the TranzAlpine Express

We include even more

- Services of experienced local Coach Captains
- All hotel portorage
- All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty
- No surcharge guarantee
- ATOL protection for your holiday



Milford Mariner, Milford Sound

To find out more visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

To book your holiday call 01695 577 961

Magnificent New Zealand

Days 1 to 7 Singapore - Auckland - Bay of Islands



Bay of Islands



Bangkok, Thailand

Day 1 - Depart UK

Depart from the UK airport most convenient for you with Qantas / Emirates, at no extra cost: London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2 - Singapore, 2 nights

All flights to Singapore travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Singapore and transfer to the four star Furama Riverfront Hotel, situated in an enviable position close to the banks of the Singapore River. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative Stopover - Dubai or Bangkok

We have based days 2 - 4 of this itinerary on flights with Qantas / Emirates and a stopover in Singapore. If you prefer, you may choose to stop in Bangkok or Dubai at the same price. Alternatively you may choose to travel with Singapore Airlines from London Heathrow. Your included stopover with Singapore Airlines will be Singapore

All stopovers include transfers to and from the hotel, daily breakfast and a city sightseeing tour. Flight timings vary dependent on your choice of stopover. Please speak with one of our travel experts for more details.

Day 3 - Singapore

Known as 'the crossroads of Asia', Singapore is a city where east meets west; a cosmopolitan melting pot with an inspirational identity. This morning, enjoy a tour of this wonderful city. Included is a stop at Merlion Park with impressive views of Marina Bay, the historic Civic District, Thian Hock Keng Temple and the fabulous orchid gardens set within Singapore's botanical gardens. Return to the hotel where the rest of our day is free to spend as we please. **Breakfast included**

Day 4 - Depart Singapore

A day at leisure in Singapore until it's time to leave for our evening flight to Auckland. Perhaps explore the impressive Gardens by the Bay or enjoy high tea at Raffles. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 5 - Auckland, 2 nights

We change aircraft in Sydney, and on arrival into Auckland we board our waiting coach and transfer to the Amora Hotel, where we spend our first two nights in New Zealand. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 6 - Auckland

This morning, we will take an orientation tour of the city. Known as the 'City of Sails', Auckland is New Zealand's most populous city, with a beautiful waterside

setting and a landscape dotted with volcanic hills. We drive along the beautiful coastline of the famous Waitemata Harbour. In the distance see Rangitoto Island, an extinct volcano, dominating the horizon. We continue to the stylish Viaduct Harbour, host to many America's Cup celebrations. Your afternoon is free to enjoy as you please. Perhaps take a trip to the top of Sky Tower; the panoramic views from the tallest building in the southern hemisphere are truly breath-taking. **Breakfast included**

Day 7 - Bay of Islands, 3 nights

Our travels today commence with a drive over the impressive Waitemata Harbour Bridge. Journey past dairy farms and rolling hills as we make our way north. We continue to the Waipoua Kauri Forest Reserve, where we stop to view the gigantic kauri tree Tane Mahuta, 'Lord of the Forest.' We then travel across country to the beautiful Bay of Islands and our home for the next three nights, the Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands, located in the picturesque seaside town of Paihia. **Breakfast included**



“ We both enjoyed the Magnificent New Zealand holiday immensely. The Coach Driver / Tour Guide was excellent. The holiday was extremely good value and I would recommend it to anyone wanting to taste an Antipodean holiday experience. ”

Mr & Mrs Kell, Leeds

Magnificent New Zealand

Days 8 to 13 Bay of Islands - Rotorua - Christchurch - Franz Josef



TranzAlpine Express

Day 8 - Tour Highlight

Bay of Islands cruise

Visiting this stunning area wouldn't be complete without a cruise around the Bay of Islands, no doubt one of your tour highlights. Cruise via Red Head Passage to Cape Brett and Piercy Island and on to the famous 'Hole in the Rock'. In these world-famous deep-fishing grounds dolphins and schools of fish are frequently seen. Our return trip visits historic Russell, once known as the 'Hell Hole of the Pacific', but now a peaceful and picturesque township. Our free afternoon provides an excellent opportunity (at an additional cost) to visit the grounds of the Waitangi National Reserve where, in 1840, the British and Maori chiefs signed the Waitangi Treaty. **Breakfast included**

Day 9 - Bay of Islands Freedom Day

Although our day has been left at leisure, we have the opportunity to join a fantastic optional trip to Cape Reinga. This full day excursion visits the northern tip of New Zealand, where the Tasman Sea meets the Pacific Ocean. The area holds special spiritual significance in Maori tradition, as the place where Maori spirits return to their traditional homeland, Hawaiki-A-Nui, via the roots of a lone (and still standing) 800 year old pohutukawa tree. Highlights of today's tour include magnificent coastal landscapes, the Te Pahi sand dunes and a drive along Ninety Mile Beach. **Breakfast included**

Day 10 - Rotorua, 2 nights

We travel south this morning via Auckland as we make our way to the world-famous thermal region of Rotorua. The next two nights are spent at the four star Millennium Rotorua, superbly situated close to the shores of beautiful Lake Rotorua. **Breakfast included**

Day 11 - Tour Highlight

Rotorua sightseeing and Maori Hangi

Sightseeing this morning takes us via Rotorua's famous Bath House, a Tudor-style building within the Government Gardens. We continue to Te Puia, home to the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, with its spurting geysers and boiling mud pools. Your afternoon is at leisure to relax. For those that so wish, optional activities include a float plane flight over Mount Tarawera, or perhaps an afternoon enjoying the healing properties of the thermal pools at the nearby Polynesian Spa may be more appealing? Rotorua is the heart of New Zealand's rich Maori culture and this evening we attend a concert featuring traditional song and dance, including the world famous war dance - The Haka. Also included is a Hangi buffet dinner, cooked using traditional Maori methods. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 12 - Christchurch, Overnight

This morning we make our way to Auckland Airport for our Jetstar flight to Christchurch. Upon arrival, we take a brief sightseeing tour, before arriving at the Heartland Hotel Cotswold. **Breakfast included**

Day 13 - Tour Highlight

Franz Josef - 2 nights and TranzAlpine Express

After breakfast we transfer to Christchurch railway station in plenty of time to catch the TranzAlpine Express, arguably one of the most scenic rail journeys in the world. Cross the fertile farmlands of the Canterbury Plains, and enjoy thrilling vistas over deep gorges as we travel alongside the ice-fed Waimakariri River. We climb the mighty Southern Alps, where at every turn, spectacular views of the chiselled alpine landscape will take our breath away. At Arthur's Pass we join our waiting coach to make the spectacular descent down the western side of the Southern Alps through thick native beech forest. Our travels continue southbound taking us alongside striking wild scree-scarred terrain with forests of Crimson Rata and Kahikatea. Just a few miles further south we pass Lakes Ianthe and Mapourika before reaching Franz Josef and entering the Westland National Park. Our next two nights are at the Franz Josef Glacier Hotel. **Breakfast included**



Magnificent New Zealand

Days 14 to 21 Franz Josef - Queenstown - Milford Sound - Dunedin - Christchurch

distantjourneys



Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown



Franz Josef Glacier



Milford Mariner, Milford Sound

Day 14 - Franz Josef Freedom Day

Today is left completely free to absorb the beauty of Franz Josef. For those that so wish, we shall drive to the Franz Josef Glacier terminal where we will have the opportunity to walk to view the glacier. Weather permitting we may also take an optional scenic flight (at an additional cost) over the glacier and the awe-inspiring Alpine region. **Breakfast included**

Day 15 - Queenstown, 3 nights

Incredible scenery today as we travel across the Haast River Bridge and via Clark Bluff along one of the most exciting scenic roads ever built. Travel along the shores of Lakes Wanaka and Hawea as we enter New Zealand's Central Otago region. We continue via Lake Dunstan, created by the mighty Clyde hydro dam in 1994. Later in the afternoon we reach beautiful, cosmopolitan Queenstown, and our home for the next three nights, the four star Millennium Hotel, situated only a short walk from the centre of town. **Breakfast included**

Day 16 - Queenstown

Queenstown smiles south across Lake Wakatipu into an incomparable alpine scene. Poplars and willows surround the lakefront and the lake seems to glisten every shade of blue. This morning we take a tour to visit nearby Lake Hayes and on to the historic mining town of Arrowtown. The heart of its history is Buckingham Street, a procession of small town heritage buildings that

stretch into a tree lined avenue of tiny miners' cottages. Be sure to try one of the cream teas in one of the quaint tea rooms. Your afternoon in Queenstown has been left at leisure. The thrill seekers amongst us may wish to try the Shotover Jet - an exhilarating boat ride amongst the crags and boulders of the Shotover River canyon. For a more serene experience maybe stroll by the lakeside or take a gondola ride to the top of Bob's Peak for a magnificent panoramic view of Queenstown. **Breakfast included**

Day 17 - Queenstown Freedom Day

Today has been left free to take advantage of the incredible variety of activities available in and around New Zealand's most glamorous alpine resort. For a relaxing experience, follow Queenstown's wine trail, an enjoyable day excursion of wine tasting and sightseeing. There is also an opportunity to take an optional leisurely cruise (at an additional cost) across Lake Wakatipu aboard the vintage steamboat TSS Earnslaw. The cruise includes a visit to Walter Peak Homestead and a sheep shearing show, before returning to Queenstown aboard Earnslaw. **Breakfast included**

Day 18 - Tour Highlight Milford Sound, Overnight

Today we visit the magnificence of Fiordland National Park and Milford Sound. The scenic drive takes us through Te Anau, and a variety of landscapes - farmland, native tussock

grasslands, lush beech forests and impressive glacial valleys - before arriving at Milford Sound.

In the height of summer Milford Sound attracts thousands of tourists each day; but when the day ends, visitors depart and a silence descends. Distant Journeys have included an overnight cruise along Milford Sound, undoubtedly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. On board the wonderful Milford Mariner we cruise the full length of New Zealand's most spectacular fiord to the Tasman Sea, before anchoring for the night in a sheltered cove. Our night aboard Milford Mariner will be a truly memorable experience, with nature guides on hand to assist, and the option to go exploring in the tender craft or kayaks, or simply relax on deck. After the day's activities, enjoy a sumptuous evening buffet in the spacious dining saloon before retiring to your private cabin with en-suite facilities. **Breakfast and dinner included**

We recommend

Scenic flight over Franz Josef Glacier



Enjoy an optional helicopter flight over awe-inspiring Franz Josef Glacier.

Day 19 - Dunedin, 2 nights

After a truly wonderful experience as well as a hot breakfast, it's time to make our way back to the jetty ready for the next part of our journey. A morning drive takes us via Mossburn and Lumsden to Gore. Fresh, green farm scenery will accompany us to Balclutha, which has a distinctive arched concrete bridge. Milton is the last sizeable settlement before we reach Dunedin. Known as the 'Edinburgh of the South', Dunedin is South Island's second largest city and is considered New Zealand's architectural heritage capital, with its lovingly restored Victorian and Edwardian buildings. Our next two nights are spent at the Distinction Hotel Dunedin, conveniently located close to the Octagon. **Breakfast included**

Day 20 - Dunedin

Enjoy a city sightseeing tour this morning travelling past Otago University, New Zealand's first university. Our sightseeing also takes in the city's neo-Gothic churches, town hall, opulent theatres, and other 19th century buildings. We have time to admire the beautifully landscaped trees and plants of Dunedin Botanical Gardens and the spectacular views of the Otago Peninsula and Harbour before we return to our hotel. Our afternoon is at leisure to spend as we please. **Breakfast included**

Day 21 - Christchurch, Overnight

This morning, our travels take us north once more. We stop at Hampden Beach to witness the geological curiosities known as the Moeraki Boulders, huge spherical boulders which are scattered along the beach, whilst others can be seen emerging from the sandstone cliffs. Each boulder weighs several tonnes and is up to two metres in diameter. According to Maori legend, the boulders are gourds washed ashore from the great voyaging canoe Araiteuru when it was wrecked upon landfall in New Zealand hundreds of years ago. Scientists explain the boulders as calcite concretions formed about 65 million years ago. The soft mudstone containing the boulders was raised from the seabed around 15 million years ago and waves, wind and rain are excavating them one by one.

Tour Highlight

Hosted farm visit and lunch

We continue our journey to a working farm in Fairlie, where we enjoy the warm hospitality from our hosts, who will provide an insight into farming life in New Zealand, and a barbecue lunch served within the farm grounds. Later in the day we arrive at the Heartland Hotel Cotswold in Christchurch for our final night in New Zealand. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Magnificent New Zealand

Days 22 to 23 Christchurch - UK



Canterbury Plains

Day 22 - Depart Christchurch

All good things must come to an end, and this morning we transfer to Christchurch Airport. Our flights to our chosen airport operate via Sydney and Dubai. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 23 - Arrive UK

Breakfast is served shortly before our arrival into London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. **In-flight drinks and breakfast included**

Why not combine with a tour of Australia?

If you wish to make the ultimate journey to Australasia, combining the Wonders of Australia or Very Best of Australia tours with the Magnificent New Zealand tour makes perfect sense.

Please see pages 58-61 for more details.

Homebound stopovers

Two nights from £195 per person

If you would like to stopover on your way home, we have a selection of fabulous stopovers for you to choose from. If flying with Singapore Airlines, your homebound stopover option will be Singapore. If flying with Qantas / Emirates your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or alternatively enjoy a stay in Dubai, leaving a relatively short flight back to the UK.

Further information on these stopovers may be found on pages 80 - 85. For full details on flight timings and any special offers on homebound stopovers, please call our travel experts.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf

Two nights from only £345 pp
To take in the magic, mystery and culture of Arabia perhaps consider a stopover in Dubai, home to the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa.



Hong Kong - 4* Regal Kowloon

Two nights from only £345 pp
The Far East's number one stopover destination. Be sure to take in a Victoria Harbour cruise and indulge yourselves in the very best street markets, vibrant shops and excellent dining.

Bangkok - 4* Arnoma Hotel

Two nights from only £195 pp
Why not consider a stopover in Bangkok, the City of Angels, with its glittering temples, buzzing street markets, indulgent spas and graceful service?



Singapore - 4* Furama Riverfront

Two nights from only £245 pp
Possibly a two night break in the Lion City of Singapore might be on your wish list? A former British trading colony, Singapore perfectly blends ancient eastern with modern western cultures.

Magnificent New Zealand

Departure dates and prices

2017	2018
19 Apr* £3,695	09 Jan £4,695
09 Oct £4,295	23 Jan £4,695
31 Oct £4,495	13 Feb £4,495
	13 Mar £4,395
	18 Apr £3,895

*The 19 April 2017 departure visits South Island before North Island. All hotels and inclusions are the same as featured in the itinerary.

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £995 - £1,245 dependent on departure date. Please call for details.

Deposits: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Single travellers taking our Happy to Share option will share a room on holiday with a single traveller of the same gender and will avoid paying a single supplement. Simply choose our Happy to Share option at the time of booking, and if there isn't another single traveller of the same gender on your departure, you'll enjoy a room on your own at no extra cost.

Homebound stopovers: Homebound stopovers are available on all dates. If flying with Singapore Airlines, your stopover will be Singapore. If flying with Qantas / Emirates, your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or Dubai.

The stopovers may be on special offer - please call our travel experts for the most up to date prices and offers.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961



Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

28 days from only £4,795 per person

Beautiful New Zealand awaits with its sparkling lakes, gushing geysers and snow-capped mountains. You'll see the very best of the country's incredible landscapes and waterside cities.

Cosmopolitan Melbourne welcomes you to Australia. Next, the haunting splendour of the outback - Alice Springs and Uluru are never to be forgotten. Savour tropical Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef. And finally, fabulous Sydney is the natural climax to this tour of highlights.

Including a choice of outbound stopovers in Singapore, Dubai or Bangkok, and guided throughout New Zealand and Australia by your experienced Distant Journeys Coach Captains and Tour Manager, you can be sure this holiday will provide you with highlight after highlight.



Tour Highlight

Great Barrier Reef



Snorkel in the sheltered coral lagoon or marvel at the colourful sealife from the comfort of the underwater observatory or the semi-submersible vessel.

What's included

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights with Qantas / Emirates
- Depart from London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow at no additional cost
- All domestic flights within Australia & New Zealand
- Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available on selected international routes for a supplement

Great choice of included stopovers

- Your choice of two night outbound stopover in Singapore, Dubai or Bangkok
- Your stopover includes airport transfers, accommodation, daily breakfast and a sightseeing tour

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior hotels in great locations, as detailed in the itinerary

Many meals included

- Daily breakfast included, worth £409 per person
- Maori Hangi dinner in Rotorua
- Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- Luncheon cruise on Sydney Harbour

Unforgettable experiences included

- Sightseeing tours in Singapore, Christchurch, Rotorua, Auckland, Melbourne, Alice Springs and Sydney
- Full day excursion and cruise on Milford Sound
- Franz Josef Glacier
- Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve
- Maori concert
- Ayers Rock at sunset and sunrise
- Full day on the Great Barrier Reef
- Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

We include even more

- Services of experienced local Coach Captains and Tour Managers
- All hotel portorage
- All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty
- No surcharge guarantee
- ATOL protection for your holiday

feefo 45 reviews
Product Rating: **97%**
05 August 2016

Uluru (Ayers Rock)

To find out more visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

To book your holiday call 01695 577 961

Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

Days 1 to 8 Singapore - Christchurch - Franz Josef - Queenstown



Singapore



TSS Earnslaw, Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown

Day 1 - Depart UK

Depart from the UK airport most convenient for you with Qantas / Emirates, at no extra cost: London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2 - Singapore, 2 nights

All flights to Singapore will travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Singapore and transfer to the four star Copthorne Kings Hotel, situated in an enviable position close to the banks of the Singapore River. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative Stopover - Dubai or Bangkok

We have based days 2 - 4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Alternatively you may choose to stay in Dubai or Bangkok for the same price. All stopovers include transfers to and from the hotel, daily breakfast and a city sightseeing tour. Flight timings vary dependent on your choice of stopover - please speak with one of our travel experts for more details.

Day 3 - Singapore

Known as 'the crossroads of Asia', Singapore is a city where east meets west; a cosmopolitan melting pot with an inspirational identity. This morning enjoy a tour of this wonderful city. Included is a stop at Merlion Park with impressive views of Marina Bay, the historic Civic District, Thian Hock Keng Temple and the fabulous orchid gardens

set within Singapore's botanical gardens. Return to the hotel where the rest of our day is free to spend as we please. **Breakfast included**

Day 4 - Depart Singapore

A day at leisure until it's time to leave for the airport and our flight to Christchurch. Possibly enjoy high tea at Raffles or visit the wonderful Gardens by the Bay. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 5 - Christchurch, Overnight

We transit through Sydney and continue our journey to Christchurch, New Zealand. Christchurch is a charming city renowned for its many gardens and parks. Overnight at the delightful Rendezvous Hotel. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 6 - Franz Josef, 2 nights

Today we embark on one of the most stunning drives in New Zealand. Travel through the Canterbury Plains, heading towards the imposing Southern Alps and across Arthur's Pass. We make the spectacular descent down the western side of the Southern Alps, towards the rocky beaches of the untamed west coast. Our route takes us along striking wild scree-scarred terrain with forests of Crimson Rata and Kahikatea. Pass Lakes lanthe and Mapourika before entering the Westland National Park. Our next two nights are at the Franz Josef Glacier Hotel. **Breakfast included**

Day 7 - Franz Josef Freedom Day

Today is left completely free to absorb the beauty of Franz Josef. For those that so wish, we shall drive to the Franz Josef Glacier terminal where we will have the opportunity to walk towards the glacier. Weather permitting we may also take an optional scenic flight (at an additional cost) over the awe-inspiring Alpine region. **Breakfast included**

Day 8 - Queenstown, 3 nights

Witness incredible scenery today as we travel through Mount Aspiring National Park, and across the Haast River Bridge on one of the most exciting scenic roads ever built. We journey along the shores of Lakes Hawea and Wanaka as we enter New Zealand's Central Otago region. Later in the afternoon we arrive at the four star Millennium Hotel in the stunning alpine resort of Queenstown, which will be home for the next three nights. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Scenic flight over Franz Josef Glacier



Enjoy an optional helicopter flight over awe-inspiring Franz Josef Glacier.

Franz Josef Glacier

“What a trip, I would give it eleven out of ten, and if I could do it all again tomorrow then I would.”

Mr & Mrs Steventon, West Midlands



Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

Days 9 to 20 Queenstown - Rotorua - Auckland - Melbourne - Alice Springs - Uluru - Cairns

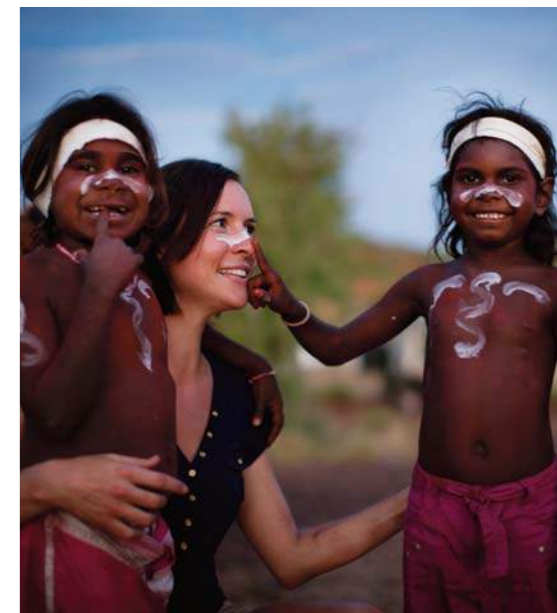
distantjourneys



Milford Sound, Fiordland National Park



The Twelve Apostles, Great Ocean Road



Aboriginal children, Northern Territory

Day 9 - Tour Highlight

Milford Sound

Today we travel to the magnificent Fiordland National Park and to Milford Sound, which will undoubtedly prove to be one of your tour highlights. The scenic drive takes us through a variety of landscapes - farmland, native tussock grasslands, lush beech forests and impressive glacial valleys - before arriving at Milford Sound to begin our cruise. Only when out cruising on Milford Sound can the sheer scale of the dramatic scenery be fully appreciated: towering peaks rise all around and spectacular waterfalls cascade into the calm waters below. Our cruise takes in the impressive Mitre Peak and Bowen Falls. Remember to keep a look out for dolphins as well as seals and penguins. **Breakfast included**

Day 10 - Queenstown Freedom Day

Our day is free to take advantage of the incredible variety of activities available in and around New Zealand's most glamorous alpine resort. Maybe go horse riding or take a four wheel drive safari over old mining tracks. For those requiring a more tranquil day, there is also an opportunity to take an optional leisurely cruise (at an additional cost) across Lake Wakatipu aboard the vintage steamboat TSS Earnslaw. The cruise includes a visit to Walter Peak Homestead and a sheep shearing show, before returning to Queenstown aboard Earnslaw. **Breakfast included**

Day 11 - Rotorua, 2 nights

After breakfast we make our way to Queenstown Airport in time for our Jetstar flight to Auckland. Upon arrival

we board our waiting coach and make our way to the world famous thermal region at Rotorua for our next two nights at the Distinction Hotel, situated close to Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve. **Breakfast included**

Day 12 - Tour Highlight

Rotorua sightseeing and Maori Hangi

Sightseeing this morning takes us via Rotorua's famous Bath House, a Tudor-style building situated within the Government Gardens. We continue to Te Puia, home to the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve with its spurring geysers and boiling mudpools. Your afternoon is at leisure to relax. For those that so wish, optional activities include a float plane journey over Mount Tarawera, or perhaps an afternoon enjoying the healing properties of the thermal pools at the Polynesian Spa may be more appealing? Rotorua is the heart of New Zealand's rich Maori culture and this evening we attend a concert featuring traditional song and dance, including the world famous war dance - The Haka. Also included is a Hangi buffet dinner, cooked using traditional Maori methods. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 13 - Auckland, 2 nights

After breakfast it's time to leave Rotorua as we make our way to the beautiful city of Auckland, the 'City of Sails'. Our sightseeing tour this afternoon begins with a drive along the beautiful coastline of the famous Waitemata Harbour. In the distance you can see Rangitoto Island, an extinct volcano, dominating the horizon. We continue to the stylish Viaduct Harbour,

host to many America's Cup celebrations. Our final two nights in New Zealand are spent at the centrally located Amora Hotel, Auckland. **Breakfast included**

Day 14 - Auckland Freedom Day

A day at leisure in New Zealand's largest city. Auckland enjoys a beautiful waterside setting, and sailing an America's Cup yacht (at your own expense) around Waitemata Harbour offers the fun and pleasure of a real sailing experience and at the same time providing magnificent views of the city's skyline. Alternatively take a lunch cruise, visit the boutique shops of nearby Parnell or take a trip to the top of Sky Tower. The panoramic views from the tallest building in the southern hemisphere are truly breath-taking. **Breakfast included**

Day 15 - Melbourne, 2 nights

After an early start, we make our way to Auckland airport for our flight to Melbourne, Australia. Once our luggage has been collected, we'll meet our Australian Tour Manager and take a first look at Melbourne on a sightseeing tour. Sights include Captain Cook's Cottage (optional entry at own expense), Victoria Markets, Federation Square, the MCG and Rod Laver Arena. We also head out of the city to see the waterside suburbs of St. Kilda and Port Melbourne. We stay at the elegant Rendezvous Hotel, situated in a wonderful location, within easy reach of Flinders Street Station and Melbourne's Southbank. This evening why not enjoy dinner on Melbourne's Colonial Tramcar? **Boxed breakfast included**

Day 16 - Melbourne, Freedom Day

This is our first Freedom Day in Australia, where we can choose to relax or explore as we please. We have the opportunity to enjoy an optional tour along one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives, the internationally renowned Great Ocean Road. The full day optional tour begins in Torquay (home to the surfing paradise of Bells Beach) and meanders along the dramatic southwest coastline of Victoria to the impressive Twelve Apostles. Alternatively, take the Puffing Billy steam train through the Blue Dandenong Ranges or take a trip to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Fairy Penguins, to view the Fairy Penguin Parade. **Breakfast included**

Day 17 - Tour Highlight

Uluru, (Ayers Rock), Overnight

Our morning Jetstar flight takes us from Victoria State to Uluru in the Northern Territory and Australia's Red Centre. We will hopefully have the opportunity to view Uluru from the air prior to landing. Rising from the flat surrounding scrubland, Uluru is a site of deep cultural significance to the Aboriginal communities of the Northern Territory. It is the icon of Australia's outback, and is also the world's largest monolith. This afternoon we have the opportunity to witness the changing colours with a glass of sparkling wine, as the sun begins to set. It's truly a photographer's delight. Overnight at the four star Desert Gardens Hotel. **Breakfast included**

Day 18 - Alice Springs, 2 nights

For early risers, a dawn visit to the rock has been arranged. Seeing Uluru at sunrise, from a different vantage point and in a different light, offers a totally new perspective on the ever changing colours and character of the rock. We return to the hotel for breakfast, prior to a gentle stroll around certain areas of the rock to learn more about its historical and cultural importance. Later, we visit the impressive series of rounded sandstone domes known as the Olgas. Leaving Uluru, we head east through amazing outback landscapes as we journey along the scenic Lasseter and Stuart Highways as we make our way to Alice Springs. Later in the day we arrive at the four star DoubleTree by Hilton. **Breakfast included**

Day 19 - Alice Springs Freedom Day

Our day is free to relax in the outback town of 'Alice'. You may wish to take an optional hot air balloon ride over the outback. Alternatively a visit to the Western MacDonnell Ranges is an excellent opportunity to get a real picture of life in the outback. The full day excursion takes us through the wondrous and picturesque scenery of Simpson's Gap and the towering granite walls of Standley Chasm. **Breakfast included.**

Day 20 - Cairns, 4 nights

This morning we enjoy a sightseeing tour of the outback's largest town. Alice Springs was originally established in the 1870's as a staging post for the overland telegraph line between Darwin and

Adelaide. During our sightseeing tour we relive a bygone era at the Old Telegraph Station historic reserve, which faithfully recreates the settlement's earliest years. Also included are the remarkable Royal Flying Doctor Service and the School of the Air. These unique institutions provide real insight into life in the vast Australian outback. This afternoon we leave for the airport in time for our flight to Cairns. Centrally located in the heart of Cairns, our home for the next four nights is the four star DoubleTree by Hilton. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

We recommend

The Colonial Tramcar Restaurant



Glide along the scenic streets of Melbourne while enjoying a seasonally-selected menu, fine Australian wine, and a fully-stocked bar.

Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

Days 21 to 25 Cairns - Sydney



Great Barrier Reef



Kuranda Scenic Railway

Day 21 - Tour Highlight

Great Barrier Reef

A holiday to Australia would not be complete without a visit to the Great Barrier Reef. Its vibrantly coloured marine life and breath-takingly beautiful coral make this World Heritage site a must see for all visitors. During our full day Great Barrier Reef excursion, we board our high-speed catamaran and journey out to the Marine World platform located on the Outer Reef. Snorkel in the sheltered coral lagoon, or if you prefer to stay dry, view the reef from the semi-submersible reef viewer, glass bottom boat or underwater observatory. With five hours at the reef there is plenty of time to do it all. For the more adventurous, there are a number of activities available at an additional cost, including scuba diving (no experience necessary), joining the marine biologist on a guided snorkel safari, or soaring above the reef on a spectacular scenic helicopter flight. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 22 - Cairns Freedom Day

Although today has been left free, you may wish to take an optional trip to Kuranda. Beginning with a scenic railway journey to the picturesque market town of Kuranda, 'the village in the rainforest' is a lovely place to while away a few hours visiting the daily markets, the butterfly sanctuary or the Koala Gardens. The tour returns to Cairns by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy. To finish the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional Tjapukai

aboriginal culture with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. **Breakfast included**

Day 23 - Cairns Freedom Day

Another free day to enjoy and relax in tropical northern Queensland. Surrounded by rainforest and mountains, Cairns boasts over 200 walking tracks; there are also numerous interesting museums and art galleries to explore. If you prefer to venture further afield, a day trip to the nearby World Heritage listed Daintree Rainforest, the oldest rainforest in the world, is a fascinating experience. The tour gives a wonderful insight into the rainforest's unique flora and fauna, including a guided walk with an aboriginal guide and a cruise spotting saltwater crocodiles. Enjoy your day! **Breakfast included**

Day 24 - Sydney, 3 nights

This morning we make our way back to Cairns airport in time for our flight to Sydney. Upon arrival we head to the four star North Sydney Harbourview Hotel, overlooking Sydney's magnificent harbour. Sydney is a city that takes full advantage of its natural setting - its sparkling harbour is host to the world famous Sydney Harbour Bridge and the spectacular Sydney Opera House. Sydney's suburbs are blessed with lush native bushland and pristine sandy beaches. Add to this the excellent restaurants and cafes, endless shopping opportunities and a vibrant culture and it's so very easy to understand why Sydney is one of the world's favourite cities. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

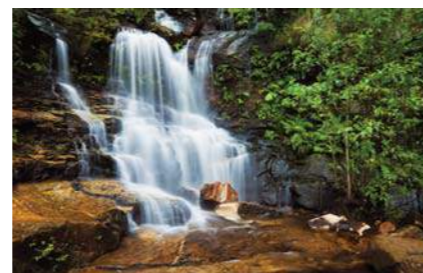
Day 25 - Tour Highlight

Sydney - Sightseeing and lunch cruise

This morning's sightseeing tour begins with a drive through some of Sydney's most fashionable inner-city suburbs en route to Bondi Beach. Travel by Double Bay and Rushcutters Bay as we make our way back to the city centre. Travel via Hyde Park and Parliament House to Mrs Macquarie's Chair in the Royal Botanical Gardens, where we stop for the classic photo opportunity of the Opera House and Harbour Bridge. We complete our tour in the best possible way - enjoying a luncheon cruise around Sydney's beautiful harbour. The views of the Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and the many dream homes nestled along the edge of the water are truly amazing. The afternoon has been left free to spend as we please. **Breakfast and lunch included**

We recommend

World Heritage Blue Mountains



Experience the panoramas from a series of lookouts, including Echo Point - the prime position to view the Three Sisters rock formation.



Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

Days 26 to 28 Sydney - UK



Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge

Day 26 - Sydney Freedom Day

Today has been left free, but for those that so desire, we shall be taking an optional trip to the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains. The Blue Mountains are a perfect example of native Australian bushland, with gum trees, majestic peaks and deep gorges stretching as far as the eye can see. Experience the panoramas from a series of lookouts, including Echo Point - the prime position to view the Three Sisters rock formation. The excursion also visits Wentworth Falls and the pretty village of Leura, famous for their annual garden festivals and playing host to many of the region's local artists.

Breakfast included

Day 27 - Depart Sydney

The morning is yours until it's time to depart for the airport, in the afternoon. Our flights to our chosen airport operate via Dubai where there will be a change of aircraft. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 28 - Arrive UK

This morning we arrive into our chosen airport (London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow) bringing to an end our incredible adventure. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Homebound stopovers

Two nights from £195 per person

If you would like to stopover on your way home, we have a selection of fabulous stopovers for you to choose from: Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or alternatively, enjoy a stay in Dubai, leaving a relatively short flight back to the UK.

Further information on these stopovers may be found on pages 80 - 85. For full details on flight timings and any special offers on homebound stopovers, please call our personal travel experts.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf

Two nights from only £345 pp
To take in the magic, mystery and culture of Arabia perhaps consider a stopover in Dubai, home to the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa.



Hong Kong - 4* Regal Kowloon

Two nights from only £345 pp
The Far East's number one stopover destination. Be sure to take in a Victoria Harbour cruise and indulge yourselves in the very best street markets, vibrant shops and excellent dining.



Bangkok - 4* Arnoma Hotel

Two nights from only £195 pp
Why not consider a stopover in Bangkok, the City of Angels, with its glittering temples, buzzing street markets, indulgent spas and graceful service?

Singapore - 4* Copthorne Kings

Two nights from only £245 pp
Possibly a two night break in the Lion City of Singapore might be on your wish list? A former British trading colony, Singapore perfectly blends ancient eastern with modern western cultures.

Maori Warrior, New Zealand



Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

Departure dates and prices

2017	2018
26 Apr £4,795	17 Jan £5,695
04 Oct £5,595	07 Feb £5,595
25 Oct £5,595	21 Feb £5,595
01 Nov £5,595	07 Mar £5,495
	25 Apr £4,995

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £1,425

Deposits: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Single travellers taking our Happy to Share option will share a room on holiday with a single traveller of the same gender and will avoid paying a single occupancy supplement. Simply choose our Happy to Share option at the time of booking, and if there isn't another single traveller of the same gender on your departure, you'll enjoy a room on your own at no extra cost.

Visa: £25 per person. To enter Australia, you need an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). We will obtain this on your behalf and the cost will be added to your confirmation invoice.

Homebound stopovers: Homebound stopovers in Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or Dubai are available on all dates. The stopovers may be on special offer - please call our travel experts for the most up to date prices and offers.

Alternative hotels: Please note, the 7th February 2018 tour will stay at the Scenic Hotel in Queenstown. The 25th April 2018 tour will stay at the Scenic Hotel in Auckland and the Heartland Hotel Cotswold in Christchurch.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961



Magnificent New Zealand & Wonders of Australia

39 days from only £7,795 per person



Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Itinerary

Day 1 Depart UK	Day 20 Dunedin
Day 2 Singapore (or alternative stopover)	Day 21 Christchurch
Day 3 Singapore	Day 22 Christchurch to Melbourne
Day 4 Depart Singapore	Day 23 Melbourne Freedom Day
Day 5 Auckland	Day 24 Melbourne Freedom Day
Day 6 Auckland	Day 25 Adelaide
Day 7 Bay of Islands	Day 26 Adelaide Freedom Day
Day 8 Bay of Islands cruise	Day 27 The Ghan
Day 9 Bay of Islands Freedom Day	Day 28 Alice Springs
Day 10 Rotorua	Day 29 Alice Springs Freedom Day
Day 11 Rotorua	Day 30 Uluru (Ayers Rock)
Day 12 Christchurch	Day 31 Cairns
Day 13 TranzAlpine and Franz Josef	Day 32 Great Barrier Reef
Day 14 Franz Josef Freedom Day	Day 33 Cairns Freedom Day
Day 15 Queenstown	Day 34 Cairns Freedom Day
Day 16 Queenstown Freedom Day	Day 35 Sydney
Day 17 Queenstown Freedom Day	Day 36 Sydney sightseeing and luncheon cruise
Day 18 Milford Sound and Milford Mariner	Day 37 Sydney Freedom Day
Day 19 Dunedin	Day 38 Depart Sydney
	Day 39 Arrive UK

Should you wish to break your journey on the way home, Distant Journeys have a selection of fabulous stopovers for you to choose from; Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or Dubai. See pages 80 - 85 for further details.



For the full Magnificent New Zealand itinerary, see pages 38 - 47
For the full Wonders of Australia itinerary, see pages 16 - 25

Pohutu Geyser, Rotorua

Magnificent New Zealand & Wonders of Australia

Departure dates and prices

2017	2018
22 Sep* £7,795	09 Jan £7,995
17 Oct £7,895	30 Jan £7,995
	13 Feb £7,995

* This tour visits Australia before New Zealand and includes an extra night in Sydney making it a 40 day itinerary.

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £2,145

When travelling overnight on the Ghan, passengers booked in a room for single use will be accommodated in single sleeper cabins with wash basin. Showers and toilets are available at the end of each compartment.

Deposits: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Happy to Share is not available when combining two tours.

Visa: £25 per person. To enter Australia, you need an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). We will obtain this on your behalf and the cost will be added to your confirmation invoice.

Homebound stopovers: Homebound stopovers in Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai are available on all dates. The stopovers may be on special offer - please call our travel experts for the most up to date prices and offers.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. Please note, due to the flight times you will miss the city tour of Melbourne. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961



The Very Best of Australia & Magnificent New Zealand

47 days from only £8,895 per person



Dolphins, Bay of Islands

Itinerary

Day 1 Depart UK	Day 25 Sydney sightseeing and luncheon cruise
Day 2 Singapore (or alternative stopover)	Day 26 Sydney Freedom Day
Day 3 Singapore	Day 27 Sydney Freedom Day
Day 4 Perth	Day 28 Sydney Freedom Day
Day 5 Perth	Day 29 Sydney - Auckland
Day 6 Perth Freedom Day	Day 30 Auckland
Day 7 Adelaide	Day 31 Bay of Islands
Day 8 Adelaide Freedom Day	Day 32 Bay of Islands cruise
Day 9 Kangaroo Island	Day 33 Bay of Islands Freedom Day
Day 10 Kangaroo Island	Day 34 Rotorua
Day 11 Melbourne	Day 35 Rotorua
Day 12 Melbourne	Day 36 Christchurch
Day 13 Melbourne Freedom Day	Day 37 TranzAlpine and Franz Josef
Day 14 Uluru (Ayers Rock)	Day 38 Franz Josef Freedom Day
Day 15 Alice Springs	Day 39 Queenstown
Day 16 Alice Springs Freedom Day	Day 40 Queenstown Freedom Day
Day 17 The Ghan	Day 41 Queenstown Freedom Day
Day 18 Darwin	Day 42 Milford Sound and Milford Mariner
Day 19 Darwin Freedom Day	Day 43 Dunedin
Day 20 Cairns	Day 44 Dunedin
Day 21 Great Barrier Reef	Day 45 Christchurch
Day 22 Cairns Freedom Day	Day 46 Depart New Zealand
Day 23 Cairns Freedom Day	Day 47 Arrive UK
Day 24 Sydney	

Should you wish to break your journey on the way home, Distant Journeys have a selection of fabulous stopovers for you to choose from; Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok or Dubai. See pages 80 - 85 for further details.



For the full Very Best of Australia itinerary, see pages 26 - 37
For the full Magnificent New Zealand itinerary, see pages 38 - 47

To find out more visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Sydney Opera House

The Very Best of Australia & Magnificent New Zealand

Departure dates and prices

2017	2018
23 Sep £8,895	06 Jan £8,995
07 Oct £8,895	20 Jan £8,995
	17 Feb £8,995

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £2,745

When travelling overnight on the Ghan, passengers booked in a room for single use will be accommodated in single sleeper cabins with wash basin. Showers and toilets are available at the end of each compartment.

Deposits: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Happy to Share is not available when combining two tours.

Visa: £25 per person. To enter Australia, you need an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). We will obtain this on your behalf and the cost will be added to your confirmation invoice.

Homebound stopovers: Homebound stopovers in Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai are available on all dates. The stopovers may be on special offer - please call our travel experts for the most up to date prices and offers.

Alternative hotel: Please note, the 6th January 2018 tour will stay at the Rendezvous Hotel in Melbourne.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. Please note, you will not be accompanied by a Tour Manager on days 28 - 29. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961

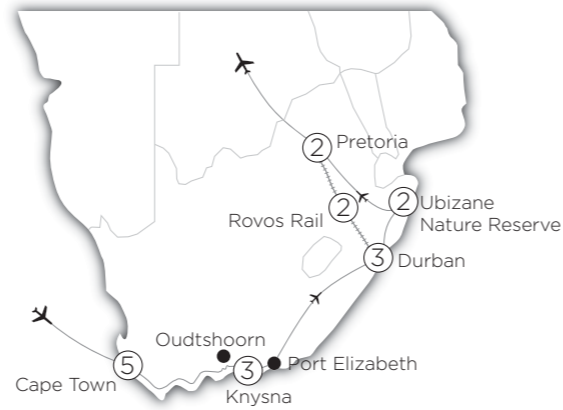


Spectacular South Africa

18 days from only £3,095 per person

It's not surprising that South Africa has become one of the world's most exciting and popular touring destinations. The country offers vibrant and colourful cities, stunning and diverse landscapes, interesting heritage, an unparalleled abundance of wildlife and a sunny climate. What's more, with no jet-lag, the holiday begins as soon as you land.

Our leisurely 18 day tour covers all the country's major attractions with a perfect blend of included sightseeing tours and Freedom Days to spend as you please. Plus, you have the flexibility to choose a traditional two night safari in a game reserve, or join the luxurious Rovos Rail for an all-inclusive Durban Safari journey. With superb accommodation, all breakfasts and many other meals included, the Spectacular South Africa tour really does offer exceptional value for money.



① = Number of nights

Tour Highlight

Cape Town



During your five night stay, experience the vibrant culture, beautiful scenery and fascinating history of Cape Town. Visit Table Mountain, The Cape of Good Hope, wonderful Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and so much more.

What's included

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights with South African Airways from London Heathrow
- Regional connections from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Newcastle, Manchester or Leeds Bradford available at no additional cost
- All domestic flights within South Africa
- Business Class upgrades are available on selected routes for a supplement

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior hotels in great locations, as detailed in the itinerary

Many meals included

- Daily breakfast included, worth up to £190 per person
- Lunches in Cape Town, Knysna and en-route to Port Elizabeth

All-inclusive on the Rovos Rail Durban Safari (if selected)

- All meals included
- Selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks included
- All sightseeing and game drives included

Included with the Ubizane Nature Reserve experience (if selected)

- All meals at Ubizane Lodge
- Evening game drive in Ubizane Wildlife Reserve
- Two game drives in Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Reserve
- Cruise the World Heritage iSimangaliso Wetlands Park

Unforgettable experiences included

- Sightseeing tours in Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria
- Cape Point and Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens
- Tour South Africa's world renowned Garden Route
- Explore Featherbed Nature Reserve
- Visit a cheetah conservation project in Pretoria

We include even more...

- Services of an experienced local Tour Manager and drivers
- All hotel portering
- All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty
- No surcharge guarantee



Elephants, South Africa

To find out more visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

To book your holiday call 01695 577 961

Spectacular South Africa

Days 1 to 5 Cape Town



Cape Winelands



African dancers, Cape Town

Day 1 - Depart UK

Depart from London Heathrow with South African Airways, bound for Cape Town via Johannesburg. Connecting flights with British Airways are available from a choice of regional airports at no extra cost: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Newcastle, Manchester or Leeds Bradford. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2 - Cape Town, 5 nights

Breakfast will be served prior to landing in magnificent Cape Town, where our waiting coach will take us to the Southern Sun Waterfront Hotel, ideally situated close to Cape Town's fashionable Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. The rest of your day is at leisure until the early evening, when we shall gather for drinks so we may all be better acquainted for our forthcoming travels together. **Breakfast included**

Day 3 - Cape Town

A morning tour of South Africa's Mother City takes us around Cape Town's most important buildings and monuments. Experience first-hand the vibrant cultures and history and enjoy the city's wonderful scenery. Weather conditions permitting, we shall take a cable car ride to enjoy spectacular views from the top of Table Mountain, followed by a drive through the colourful Malay Quarter of Bo Kaap, Green Market Square and District Six. We continue with a walk through Company Gardens, and drive via the Houses of Parliament, City Hall,

the Castle of Good Hope and Slave Lodge before returning to our hotel, where the rest of our day is at leisure. **Breakfast included**

Day 4 - Cape Point and Kirstenbosch

Today, we venture out of the city to explore the spectacular landscapes surrounding Cape Town. Our day begins with a scenic drive through the pretty seaside suburbs of Sea Point and Camps Bay. We continue via Hout Bay, a charming fishing harbour with magnificent mountain views, before driving along Chapman's Peak, one of the world's most breath-taking coastal drives. We reach the Good Hope Nature Reserve and Cape Point, where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans were once said to meet. Later, we visit Simon's Town and Boulders Beach, home to a colony of endangered African Penguins. Following lunch, we visit the superb Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. These gardens were founded in 1913 to preserve the country's unique flora and they are world-renowned not only for their beauty and diversity, but also for their magnificent setting against the eastern slopes of Table Mountain. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 5 - Cape Town Freedom Day

This is our first Freedom Day, where we can choose to relax or explore as we please. Our Distant Journeys Tour Manager will be on hand to help with advice on things to do, where to eat, make any arrangements and book

excursions for you to further explore the area. Perhaps take a journey to discover the winelands of the Western Cape. The tour will take us through the valleys and vineyards of Paarl and Franschoek and includes a cellar tour and wine-tasting in one of the region's fabulous wineries. The scenery as we drive across the Hellshoogte Pass to Stellenbosch is spectacular, and in Stellenbosch we will have plenty of time to discover the second oldest settlement in South Africa. The town's oak tree-lined streets and white-washed Cape Dutch-style buildings make this a delight for exploration on foot, and there are many lovely cafes to enjoy a spot of lunch and watch the world go by. We return to the hotel later in the afternoon. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Western Cape Winelands



A full day excursion including a cellar tour, wine tasting, quaint towns and stunning scenery.





Spectacular South Africa

Days 6 to 9 Cape Town - Garden Route - Knysna



Table Mountain, Cape Town

Day 6 – Cape Town Freedom Day

A further Freedom Day where you may choose to relax by the pool or possibly take an optional trip to Robben Island. Once reserved for high profile prisoners of the apartheid regime, today Robben Island is a monument recognising the iconic struggle of heroes such as Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu. The island was brought to the world's attention when Nelson Mandela was released from prison in the early 1990's after serving more than two decades for the crime of speaking out against the apartheid government. Today, Robben Island is a World Heritage Site – acting as a museum as well as a reminder of the price Nelson Mandela paid for the freedom of democracy. In the evening, you have the option to experience a menu of typical Cape Malay and African cuisine, accompanied by traditional African entertainment at Cape Town's excellent Gold Restaurant. **Breakfast included**

Day 7 – The Garden Route & Knysna, 3 nights

We say goodbye to Cape Town today, as we make a start on the first stage of our Garden Route tour. Our journey takes us over the breath-taking Du Toit's Kloof Pass as we climb 820 metres above sea level. We make our way to Worcester in the Hex River Valley and continue through Robertson and Bonnievale to Swellendam, a one-time rebel republic's capital. We continue

eastward through undulating countryside and peaceful villages to Mossel Bay, where we visit the Post Office Tree - a place 16th and 17th century sailors left their letters for returning ships to carry to Europe. From Mossel Bay we continue to the pearl of the Garden Route, Knysna and spend our next three nights at the newly built Rex Hotel. **Breakfast included**

Day 8 – Featherbed Nature Reserve

This morning, we have included an excursion to The Featherbed Nature Reserve, a unique 150 hectare private nature reserve, which encompasses the whole of the Western Head of Knysna, and is one of South Africa's Natural Heritage Sites. We cruise across Knysna Lagoon before spending time enjoying the spectacular coastal scenery during a gentle stroll through the reserve. The reserve is home to many native flowers and trees, as well as the endangered Blue Duiker (the smallest known antelope species in Africa), Cape Mountain Tortoises, Blue Cranes (South Africa's national bird) and rare Black African Oyster Catchers. After an included lunch, your afternoon is free to relax or stroll around Knysna's pretty waterfront. **Breakfast and lunch included**

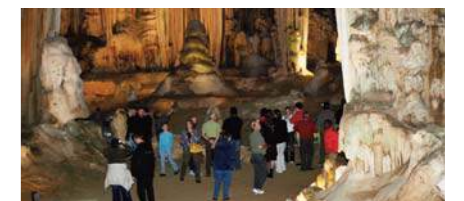
Day 9 - Knysna Freedom Day

On your Freedom Day, you will have the opportunity to join an optional tour to Oudtshoorn, South Africa's ostrich capital. The day begins with a drive over

the visually stunning Outeniqua Pass as we make our way to the beauty of the semi-arid Klein Karoo. Enjoy a tour of the Cango Caves, which are a vast series of magnificently colourful limestone caverns, even now only partially explored. This is followed by a guided tour of an ostrich farm, tracing the ostrich from egg to adulthood. Finally, visit the laid-back country town of Oudtshoorn, with its pretty Victorian buildings. Later in the day we return to Knysna. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Oudtshoorn & the Cango Caves



Featuring spectacular mountain landscapes, majestic caves and a tour of a working ostrich farm, this is a tour not to be missed.

Spectacular South Africa

Days 10 to 15 Durban - Ubizane Nature Reserve - Pretoria



Durban Safari with Rovos Rail

Days 13 to 15 Rovos Rail Durban Safari - Pretoria



Giraffes, Hluhluwe - Umfolozi Game Reserve



Zebra, Ubizane Nature Reserve



Observation Car, Rovos Rail



Pride of Africa Dining Car, Rovos Rail

Day 10 – Garden Route & Durban, 3 nights

This morning our journey continues eastward along the Garden Route via Plettenburg Bay and Tsitsikamma National Park, stopping en-route for some of the finest photographic opportunities to be found in this part of the world. After an included lunch, we continue to Port Elizabeth in time for our flight to Durban. Upon arrival we transfer to the superior Elangeni Hotel, ideally situated on Durban's esplanade. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 11 – Durban

This morning, we enjoy a tour of Durban. Visits include Victoria Embankment and City Hall and the bustling African-Indian Markets. We also explore the impressive Durban Botanical Gardens, founded in 1849 and home to a fine array of African, Asian and American trees. Your afternoon is at leisure, with the option of taking a journey to the Valley of a Thousand Hills, following the Umgeni River valley, which has been home to the Zulu people for many centuries. **Breakfast included**

Day 12 – Durban Freedom Day

A day at leisure to spend as you please. Why not take a full day optional excursion exploring the 19th century Anglo-Zulu battlefields of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift? Learn about the fascinating history of the battles that took place in January 1879 and then see the landscape on which the fighting occurred. Alternatively embark on an immersive day trip to the tiny country

of Lesotho. Set off from Durban in a 4x4 vehicle in order to cross Africa's highest pass: the 9,435-foot-high (2,876 metres) Sani Pass, to enter this intriguing land-locked kingdom. Once inside, pay a visit to a Sotho village to experience how the locals live. **Breakfast included**

Day 13 – Ubizane Nature Reserve, 2 nights

This morning we travel along South Africa's Elephant Coast en-route to Ubizane Nature Reserve situated in the heart of Zululand. With a history spanning more than 50 years, Ubizane is one of the oldest reserves in the area, with a long-standing heritage. Upon arrival we enjoy lunch prior to checking into our individual lodges, proudly built on stilts and set under a canopy of the Fever Tree Forest. Later in the afternoon we take to our open jeeps for our first game drive around the reserve. Ubizane is teeming with wildlife including giraffe, wildebeest, zebra, hyena and white rhino, as well as over 450 different bird species. After a thrilling afternoon we return to our lodge in time for dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 14 – Tour Highlight

Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Reserve

This morning we take a short drive to the oldest proclaimed game reserve in Africa: the Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Reserve. South Africa's third largest game reserve is home to 'The Big Five', so keep a look out for elephants, lions, buffalo, rhinoceros and leopards.

Following breakfast we return to our lodge where you are free to relax until the heat of the day subsides later in the afternoon. Perhaps read a book or watch for wildlife from the comfort of your own personal viewing deck or take a swim in the pool at the adjacent Safari Lodge. Later in the day we return to Hluhluwe in our four-wheel drive vehicles for another game drive prior to dinner. This evening enjoy a truly African bush experience eating dinner under the stars, next to a roaring fire in the lodge's boma – a wonderful experience to provide memories to treasure for ever. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 15 – Pretoria, 2 nights

All good things must come to an end and, after our breakfast this morning, we leave Ubizane as we make our way to St Lucia and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. The St Lucia Estuary is one of South Africa's longest and was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1999. It is estimated the estuary is home to approximately 1,200 Nile Crocodiles, 800 hippos and an abundance of birdlife. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for African Fish Eagles looking for an easy meal. After a thrilling cruise we drive to Richards Bay and board our flight to Johannesburg. Upon arrival we make our way to the five star Sheraton Pretoria Hotel, wonderfully located overlooking the Union Buildings. **Breakfast included**

As an alternative to the two night safari at Ubizane Nature Reserve, you have the option to recapture the romance and atmosphere of a bygone era, whilst joining Rovos Rail on an all-inclusive two night 'Durban Safari'. Dubbed 'the most luxurious train in the world', step aboard to find lovingly restored, wood-panelled coaches with period Edwardian features, and enjoy fine cuisine in five-star luxury.

The coaches have all been remodelled and refurbished to pristine condition. Our accommodation is in Pullman Suites; with 76 square feet of space, these private, air-conditioned sleepers feature a comfortable sofa, which converts into twin or double beds by night. Each suite enjoys an en-suite shower, wash basin, toilet and all modern amenities.

A team of enthusiastic chefs produce excellent cuisine, which is served with a selection of great South African wines in the charming Victorian atmosphere of the dining cars. Guests will enjoy the added elegance of meals served on fine china, with crisp white linen and silver, and are encouraged to dress accordingly in the evenings. Whilst on board, all meals are included, along with a wide selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

If choosing the Rovos Rail 'Durban Safari', days 13 – 15 of your itinerary will be as follows. Please note that your Tour Manager will not accompany you on the train. Instead you will be well looked after by the Train Manager and his excellent crew.

Day 13 – Tour Highlight

Rovos Rail, 2 nights

This morning, we make our way to Durban Rail Terminal in time for our magnificent overland rail journey to South Africa's Administrative Capital, Pretoria. We depart Durban and travel through the stunningly scenic Valley of a Thousand Hills. Following a relaxed lunch in the dining car, an afternoon excursion takes us to the fascinating Ardmore Ceramics Gallery. Ardmore Ceramics is a story about the Zulu people whose sense of rhythm, colour, dance and song, as well as the spirit of the African imagination, can be seen in the artwork produced in the gallery. Returning to the train, we make our way to Ladysmith, enjoying dinner with new-found friends along with some fine South African wines. Afterwards relax in the comfort of the Lounge Car with an after dinner drink. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 14 – Tour Highlight

Spionkop & Nambiti Private Game Reserve

This morning following an early wake-up call and sumptuous breakfast you have a choice of included excursions. The first option is to take an open-jeep game drive in the Spionkop Reserve, boasting a rich selection of wildlife including white rhinoceros, giraffe and a variety of plains

and bushveld antelope. Alternatively, you may wish to join the Spionkop battlefields tour. Relive a story on which the sun never sets. Britain marched into the South African war in the spring of 1899, confident that it "would all be over by Christmas!" The war lasted three years and was to become the most costly Britain had ever fought.

In the afternoon, having enjoyed lunch and time to relax, we arrive at Elandsplaagte, where we disembark for an afternoon game experience in Nambiti Private Game Reserve. Nambiti has an incredible biodiversity including savannah, grasslands, thornveld and tall acacia trees. Enjoy your open-jeep four wheel drive safari in search of 'The Big Five'. Nambiti is also home to over 40 other species of game including cheetah, giraffe, hippo, hyena, impala, eland and zebra. After freshening up and enjoying a pre-dinner drink in the Lounge Car it's time for dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 15 – Pretoria, 2 nights

Take it easy today as we continue our journey north. Enjoy the panoramas as we traverse the gold mining areas of Gauteng (literally translated as Place of Gold). Our arrival into the Rovos Rail Terminal in Capital Park is scheduled for late afternoon, and upon arrival our waiting coach will take us to re-join our fellow passengers at the Sheraton Pretoria Hotel, wonderfully located overlooking the Union Buildings. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Spectacular South Africa

Day 16 to 18 Pretoria - UK



Cheetah Breeding Centre



Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria

Day 16 - Pretoria

This morning we take an included tour to visit the Ann Van Dyk Cheetah Breeding Centre. Established in 1971, as the De Wildt Cheetah Research Centre, the centre has performed an important role in the preservation and protection of cheetahs over the last four and a half decades. This afternoon enjoy a tour around the City of Pretoria. Included is the Union Building - the seat of government and an architectural masterpiece, the Voortrekkers' Monument, Melrose House and Paul Kruger's House. We return to the hotel later in the afternoon. **Breakfast included**

Day 17 - Depart Johannesburg

The day is yours to spend as you please prior to our departure to the airport later in the day. Perhaps use the opportunity to visit the region's liveliest township, Soweto, home to over 3.5 million people and steeped in history. This evening board our South African Airways flight bound for London Heathrow. **Breakfast and in-flight dinner and drinks included**

Day 18 - Arrive UK

In the morning we arrive into London Heathrow where our African adventure reaches its conclusion. Connecting flights with British Airways are available to a choice of regional airports at no extra cost: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Newcastle, Manchester or Leeds Bradford. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Why not add on a stay at Victoria Falls?

Three nights from only £895 per person

Victoria Falls is the world's largest waterfall and a World Heritage site. The town of Victoria Falls is just over an hour and a half away from Johannesburg by air, so your Spectacular South Africa tour offers the perfect opportunity to add on one of the planet's great natural wonders.

Staying in the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, you will be able relax in luxurious surroundings, with easy access to the falls. For more information and prices, see pages 72 - 73.



Spectacular South Africa

Departure dates and prices

Including Ubizane Nature Reserve

2017	2018
15 Nov £3,145	31 Jan £3,245
	15 Feb £3,245
	06 Mar* £3,095

Including Rovos Rail

2017	2018
15 Nov £3,595	31 Jan £3,695
	06 Mar* £3,495

* This tour operates in reverse, beginning in Pretoria and ending in Cape Town.

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single supplement: £595 with Ubizane
£945 with Rovos Rail

Deposits: £1,000 per person if travelling in economy class, and £3,750 per person for business class.

Happy to Share: Single travellers taking our Happy to Share option will share a room on holiday with a single traveller of the same gender and will avoid paying a single occupancy supplement. Simply choose our Happy to Share option at the time of booking, and if there isn't another single traveller of the same gender on your departure, you'll enjoy a room on your own at no extra cost. The Happy to Share option is not possible on the Rovos Rail itinerary.

Alternative hotels: The tour departing on 31st January 2018 will stay at the Commodore Hotel in Cape Town. The tour departing on the 7th March 2018 will stay in Safari Lodges at Ubizane Nature Reserve rather than Tree Lodges.

Passports: When travelling to South Africa, your passport should have at least two blank pages when you present it at immigration to enter or leave South Africa. If you are extending your holiday to Victoria Falls, we recommend you have a minimum of four blank pages left in it for the combined trip.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961



Victoria Falls extension

Three nights from only £895 per person



Victoria Falls Safari Lodge



View of a watering hole from the lodge

Described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 19th century as Mosi-oa-Tunya - 'The Smoke that Thunders' - Victoria Falls is a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty. Join our three night extension to witness one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

Stay in the luxurious Victoria Falls Safari Lodge. Built to blend in perfectly with the surrounding bushland, the lodge has the appeal of a vast open-plan tree house, with elegant furnishings using soft earthy colourings to complement the landscapes.

The spectacular setting can be enjoyed by guests cooling off in a two-tiered swimming pool, or over one of their famous 'sundowners' served in the hotel's Buffalo Bar - complete with a game-viewing platform overlooking the waterhole. Keep watch for elephants, buffalo, kudu, warthogs, hyena, crocodile, vultures and other species.

The Victoria Falls extension follows on from the Spectacular South Africa tour, which you will find on pages 62-71.

Day 17 - Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), 3 nights

A morning departure takes us to Johannesburg Airport in time for our flight to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Upon arrival, and having cleared customs, our waiting vehicle will transfer us to the outstanding Victoria Falls Safari Lodge. This afternoon join your travelling companions for a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River, which is a relaxing experience where hopefully we may sight hippopotamus, crocodile, elephant and other wildlife species. Afterwards take an included dinner at The Boma, which provides a unique cultural experience blending the sounds and sights of Africa with a wonderful meal. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 18 - Tour Highlight

Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls are a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur on the Zambezi River, bordering Zambia and Zimbabwe. Columns of spray can be seen up to 40 kilometres (25 miles) away as 546 million cubic metres of water per minute plummet over the edge (at the height of the rainy season). This morning we take you on a walking tour of the falls to discover its magnitude, grace and beauty. Stops will be made at the various vantage points, so we may take in the incredible views of the falls, the mighty Zambezi as well as neighbouring Zambia. In the afternoon we are free to enjoy a whole array of optional activities: fishing for tiger fish in the Zambezi, horseback safaris, or take in the ultimate view of the falls on board a scenic helicopter flight. Enjoy your afternoon! **Breakfast included**

Day 19 - Victoria Falls Freedom Day

A Freedom Day in Victoria Falls to spend as you please. We would highly recommend a visit to Chobe National Park in neighbouring Botswana - home to the highest concentration of elephants in Africa. Enjoy a boat cruise along the Chobe River, famous for its huge herds of elephant which can be viewed up-close and safely from the boat. Afterwards enjoy an abundance of wildlife as you explore the Chobe riverfront by open safari vehicle. Large herds of elephant, buffalo and plains game, along with their accompanying predators have made this their home. Return to Zimbabwe and the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge early evening. **Breakfast included**

Day 20 - Depart Victoria Falls and Johannesburg

Sadly we must leave Victoria Falls and Africa today. After nearly three thrilling weeks, we have travelled far and gathered memories to treasure. Mid-morning we make our way to Victoria Falls in time for our flight to Johannesburg. Our connecting flight to Heathrow departs in the evening. **Breakfast and in-flight dinner and drinks included**

Day 21 - Arrive UK

This morning we arrive into London Heathrow where our African adventure reaches its conclusion. Connecting flights with British Airways are available to a choice of regional airports at no extra cost: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Newcastle, Manchester or Leeds Bradford. **In-flight breakfast and drinks included**



Victoria Falls

Twelve Apostles, Great Ocean Road

Victoria Falls Extension

Prices

All dates: £895 per person

Single supplement: £195

Prices: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Deposits: When booking the Spectacular South Africa tour, your deposit will cover the Victoria Falls extension.

Happy to Share: The Happy to Share option is not possible on the Victoria Falls extension.

Visas: If travelling to Victoria Falls you will require a visa, which may be applied for online prior to travel, although it is easy to arrange on arrival into Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The approximate cost of visas for British and Irish passport holders is US\$55 per person for a single entry and US\$70 per person for double entry. Payment for the visa should be made on arrival at Victoria Falls, and we recommend you have the correct amount in US Dollars as sometimes change cannot be given. If you are considering taking a trip to neighbouring Botswana (for Chobe National Park), we recommend purchasing the double entry visa. British nationals do not need a visa to enter Botswana for stays of up to 90 days.

Terms and conditions: Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. Please note, the flow of the falls varies at different times of the year. For full terms and conditions see pages 88 - 91 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Book Now

Call our travel experts on

01695 577 961



New Zealand

Hotel directory



Amora Hotel
Auckland

An oasis of calm in central Auckland, the Amora Hotel offers a home away from home. Centrally located amongst splendid park surroundings, the Amora Hotel Auckland is ideally positioned within easy walking distance to the major shopping and entertainment areas. The Amora has a convivial bar and The Grill Restaurant offers a delectable seasonal dinner menu.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands
Paihia

The Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands enjoys island-influenced architecture with beautifully landscaped grounds and light airy rooms. Situated at the entrance to the seaside town of Paihia, it's a pleasant stroll to the main wharf, visitor activities, bars, restaurants and shopping.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Millennium Hotel
Rotorua

The Millennium Hotel takes full advantage of Rotorua's unique qualities by using its natural geothermal resources to heat the hotel and indoor pool. The location couldn't be better, right alongside Lake Rotorua and an easy walk into the city centre. As well as the pool and spa, the hotel's facilities include Restaurant Nikau, for locally sourced New Zealand dishes and Bar Zazu, a cosy spot for a nightcap.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Scenic Hotel Franz Josef, Graham Wing
Franz Josef

Nestled at the edge of the Westland World Heritage Park, and just moments from one of New Zealand's most spectacular natural attractions. The Scenic Hotel Franz Josef makes the most of its alpine location and offers comfortable accommodation.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Millennium Hotel
Queenstown

This welcoming Queenstown hotel captures the essence of a truly unique region and is the perfect restful haven from the rigours of Queenstown's many outdoor adventure pursuits. Millennium Hotel Queenstown is only minutes from Queenstown's central shopping, entertainment and outdoor activities. The hotel enjoys spacious guest rooms, a gym, sauna, spa, bar and restaurant.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Milford Mariner
Milford Sound

For the ultimate Milford Sound experience, spend the night aboard the Milford Mariner and wake up to the dawn of a new day in one of the most beautiful places on earth. Sleeping only 60 guests, the ship has spacious viewing decks, a dining room serving meals prepared on-board, and a fully licensed bar. Private cabins are fitted with en-suite facilities.



Distinction Hotel
Rotorua

The Distinction Rotorua Hotel is situated just a few minutes drive from the centre of Rotorua, in a peaceful garden setting adjacent to the Whakarewarewa Forest. Rotorua's premier golf course is just across the road and there is a heated outdoor swimming pool. There is a choice of dining options, ranging from the casual poolside Pavilion Café & Restaurant to Mr Yakitori's, for flame-grilled meats and fish.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Rendezvous Hotel
Christchurch

Rendezvous Hotel Christchurch is situated just one block from Cathedral Square. Each of the modern guest rooms features high-speed broadband access and all the modern comforts one would expect from a quality city hotel.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Heartland Hotel Cotswold
Christchurch

Boasting spacious grounds and award-winning gardens, excellent service, well-appointed guestrooms and an elegant décor throughout. There are many excellent facilities on offer including Tudors Restaurant, Earl of Essex Bar, an outdoor swimming pool and sauna.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Distinction Hotel
Dunedin

Formerly the 1930's Chief Post Office, the Distinction Hotel Dunedin is an elegant hotel located in the rejuvenated and vibrant exchange area in the heart of the city. The hotel features a fitness centre and its restaurant and bar offers the traveller a venue to unwind and enjoy.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Australia

Hotel directory



Mercure Treasury Gardens Melbourne

The Mercure Treasury Gardens is located close to the centre of Melbourne, overlooking Treasury Gardens. The perfect place to stay while exploring Melbourne's attractions, such as Federation Square, the MCG and Parliament House. This four star hotel also features Lime Restaurant and Bar, serving Modern Australian cuisine.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Clarion Suites Gateway Melbourne

Just a gentle stroll from the Yarra River, Clarion Suites Gateway is ideally located close to Melbourne's CBD, just minutes from the city's world-class shopping and restaurants. The hotel boasts an indoor swimming pool and William's Bar & Café offers the traveller a pleasurable dining experience. Rooms are spacious and very well equipped.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne

Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne is an elegant, stylish hotel built in 1913, and is situated on Flinders Street, in the heart of Melbourne's city centre. It has a great location, overlooking the Yarra River, and is in easy walking distance of all the city has to offer. Straits Cafe offers international cuisine in an historic setting where you can enjoy the best local and organic produce and sample some of the best Australian and international wines.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Voyages Desert Gardens Ayers Rock Resort

A superior hotel set in lovely grounds of magnificent ghost gums and flowering native shrubs. It's only a short stroll to the resort's numerous lookouts, where you can view arguably Australia's finest sunset. Once the sun has set, dine at Arnguli Grill and savour an à la carte flame grilled menu.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



DoubleTree by Hilton Cairns

Centred around a unique rainforest atrium, the charming DoubleTree by Hilton includes an outdoor swimming pool, restaurant and bar. The DoubleTree is just a few minutes walk from Cairns' shopping and entertainment centre. The Atrium Restaurant offers Mediterranean-inspired dishes and an extensive wine list.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



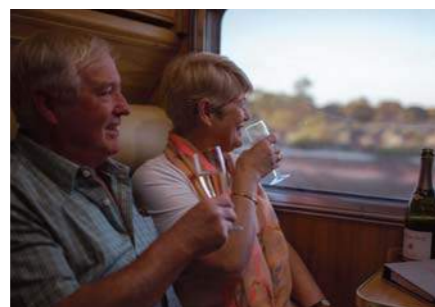
Pacific International Hotel Cairns

There's few better places to stay when you're exploring Cairns than the Pacific International Hotel. Aside from enjoying the esplanade nearby, you can easily reach the main restaurant and shopping areas. Rooms are spacious with air-conditioning. There is an outdoor pool and you may enjoy delicious dishes at Bushfire Flame Grill Restaurant.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



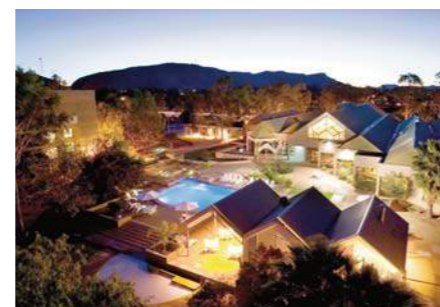
Stamford Plaza Adelaide

Set in the city centre, the hotel is located close to Adelaide's beautiful parks, stylish shopping and lively entertainment facilities. Food and drink options at the Stamford Plaza Hotel include La Boca Bar and Grill featuring flame grilled Argentinian meats and the Cascade Cocktail Lounge for a fine selection of cocktails and South Australian wines. The hotel has an outdoor rooftop pool.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



The Ghan Gold Service

The comfortable twin cabins configure as a three seater lounge during the day and convert to upper and lower berths at night, with a compact en suite. If you're travelling alone, single cabins are configured as a lounge chair, converting to a bed at night, with shared bathroom facilities at the end of the carriage. Gold Service guests dine in the exclusive Queen Adelaide Restaurant and enjoy a wide selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, which are all included.



DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs

Located between the Todd River and Alice Springs Golf Club, and with the MacDonnell Ranges as a backdrop, the DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs is a lovely resort awarded for its environmentally friendly innovations. The DoubleTree features a sauna, outdoor swimming pool, a complimentary bike hire service (subject to availability) as well as a choice of eateries.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



North Sydney Harbourview Hotel Sydney

As the name suggests, the North Sydney Harbourview Hotel boasts an excellent location overlooking the Harbour Bridge on the north side of Sydney Harbour and is just minutes away from the main shopping areas, the Botanic Gardens, the Opera House and Circular Quay. Enjoy live entertainment in the Blues Bar and contemporary cuisine in LB's Harbourview Restaurant.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Parkroyal Sydney Darling Harbour Sydney

The contemporary and stylish Parkroyal Sydney Darling Harbour has a great waterfront location in the heart of Darling Harbour, within easy reach of all that Sydney has to offer. The hotel boasts modern facilities including a state of the art gym, whilst Barkers restaurant and the Abode Bistro and Bar will satisfy all tastes with delicious Australian and international food and drink.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Novotel Langley Perth

The Novotel Langley is situated in the heart of downtown Perth just a short walking distance away from Perth's attractions, shopping and dining. The hotel features Senses Restaurant and Wine Bar, and even a traditional Irish pub! The spa and gymnasium facilities offer views over the beautiful Swan River.
Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★

Australia

Hotel directory



Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge
Kangaroo Island

Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge has been designed to blend in with its unique wilderness location and natural surroundings, and is situated on a hillside amidst native bushland. Reflections Restaurant & Bar showcases the best locally sourced Kangaroo Island produce, and the hotel offers an on-site Nature Walking Trail, tennis court and outdoor swimming pool.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Aurora Ozone Hotel
Kangaroo Island

Situated opposite the beach and overlooking Nepean Bay on stunning Kangaroo Island, the friendly and comfortable Aurora Ozone Hotel has an outdoor pool and barbecue area for al fresco relaxation and dining. Indoors, Zone Restaurant features locally sourced food in a casual environment and the walls are adorned with artwork created by a local Kangaroo Island artist.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



DoubleTree by Hilton Esplanade
Darwin

Overlooking the Esplanade, the welcoming DoubleTree by Hilton Esplanade is within walking distance of Darwin's city centre and historic attractions including the War Memorial and Parliament House. Cool down with a dip in the impressive outdoor swimming pool. The hotel's poolside restaurant and bar, Aqua, offers dishes prepared with Mediterranean and Territory influences.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



South Africa

Hotel directory



Southern Sun Waterfront
Cape Town

Only a short walk from the V&A Waterfront with its fabulous shopping and world class restaurants, the Southern Sun Waterfront hotel is smart and comfortable. Not only does the hotel have a great location, but it also boasts excellent facilities including an outdoor pool, gym and a choice of eateries all showcasing South Africa's excellent local produce and world-class wines.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



The Rex Hotel
Knysna

The Rex Hotel is one of Knysna's most elegant hotel offerings, with great service and comfort, and it is located just a short stroll from Knysna's bustling waterfront. Guests will stay in the newly built wing of the hotel in comfortable modern rooms, with access to the hotel swimming pool.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel
Durban

The Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel enjoys a prime position on Durban's Golden Mile; a sun-soaked stretch of beachfront overlooking the warm Indian Ocean. The hotel offers three outdoor pools, all with great views. Guests are spoilt for choice with a selection of bars and restaurants on site offering everything from steaks and fish to Japanese specialities and the delicious Indian curries for which Durban is renowned.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Ubizane Tree and Safari Lodges
Ubizane Nature Reserve

Ubizane is a stunning nature reserve covering some 1200 hectares of land with many wildlife viewing opportunities from the Lodge. Accommodation is in either Tree Lodges or Safari Lodges. The Tree Lodges sit on stilts in the tree tops, and the Safari Lodges are of the traditional rondavel style with glass-panelled sliding doors. All have every modern comfort including air-conditioning.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★



Rovos Rail
Pullman Suites

Recapture the romance and atmosphere of a bygone era. Dubbed 'the most luxurious train in the world', with Rovos Rail you step aboard to find lovingly restored, wood-panelled coaches with period Edwardian features, and enjoy fine cuisine in five-star luxury. Accommodation is in Pullman Suites; private, air-conditioned sleepers with spacious en-suite bathrooms.



Sheraton Hotel
Pretoria

Situated in the centre of Pretoria, opposite South Africa's Union Buildings, the elegant and contemporary Sheraton Hotel has spacious and modern bedrooms and features an outdoor pool, a spa and gym. Dine in the Magnolia Restaurant for locally-sourced specialities or enjoy a light snack in Tiffins Bar and Lounge.

Local rating ★★★★★
Distant Journeys rating ★★★★★

Choose your airline & stopover

On holidays to Australia and New Zealand

Over many years of designing tours, we have always appreciated the long journeys involved in reaching the far flung corners of the globe, so we always try to make the journey as comfortable and relaxing as possible by including a choice of fascinating stopovers.

Outbound stopover

Distant Journeys offers a fantastic choice of outbound stopovers in some wonderful places, all included in your holiday price. We include airport transfers, accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis and even include a comprehensive city tour to give you a fascinating insight into the culture and attractions of your chosen stopover. Dependent on your choice of airline and tour you can visit Singapore, Dubai or Bangkok on your way down to Australia or New Zealand at no additional cost.

Homebound stopover

Should you wish to break your journey on your way home we are more than happy to arrange this for you. Prices for the two night inbound stopover options can be found on pages 82 - 83 and include airport transfers and accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis. Early bookers may be able to take advantage of a special early booking price on the homebound stopover. Please call one of our travel experts on 01695 577 961 for more details.



Tour	Airline	Choose your UK airport	Choose your INCLUDED outbound stopover	Choose your inbound stopover (additional cost)
Wonders of Australia		London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore or Dubai	Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong or Dubai
The Very Best of Australia		London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore or Dubai	Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong or Dubai
Highlights of Australia & New Zealand		London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai	Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong or Dubai
Magnificent New Zealand		London Heathrow	Singapore	Singapore
Magnificent New Zealand		London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai	Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong or Dubai



Airline and stopover information

Flight costs are based on a specific booking class of seats, which are limited on each flight. We recommend booking early to avoid paying a supplement. Stopover accommodation is based on a specific category of room and is subject to availability. Please note not all flights are direct and may transit through other points. Please call our travel experts for further information.

Choose your stopover

Singapore • Hong Kong • Dubai • Bangkok



Dubai Marriott al Jaddaf

Marvel at the incredible skyline that has risen so rapidly from the desert over the past couple of decades. This is the gateway to Arabia at its best and it knows it! Enjoy the views from the top of the world's tallest building Burj Khalifa or shop until you drop in Dubai's numerous malls.

Distant Journeys includes the option of a two night outbound stopover at the five star Marriott al Jaddaf.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £345pp
Single room price £545

Please note, a tourism tax is payable locally in Dubai of 20 Dirham (approx £3.50) per room per night.



Bangkok Arnoma Hotel

Thailand's rich heritage, ancient traditions and its 400 glittering Buddhist Temples and palaces makes a stay in Bangkok a fascinating experience.

As well as being a tourist treasure it is also home to many shopping malls and a huge variety of dining options.

Distant Journeys includes the option of a two night outbound stopover at the four star Arnoma Hotel on the Magnificent New Zealand and the Highlights of Australia & New Zealand tours.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £195pp
Single room price £295



Singapore Furama Riverfront Hotel

A fascinating fusion of modern skyscrapers, beautifully manicured parks and gardens and incredible dining and shopping. Known as the greenest city in the whole of Asia, no matter how many times you visit this cosmopolitan city you will always want to return time and time again.

Distant Journeys includes a two night outbound stopover at the four star Furama Riverfront Hotel on the Very Best of Australia and Magnificent New Zealand tours.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £245pp
Single room price £395



Singapore Copthorne Kings Hotel

Known as 'the crossroads of Asia', Singapore is a city where east meets west; a cosmopolitan melting pot with an inspirational identity, with modern skyscrapers and grand colonial buildings, blending with elegant temples and fragrant medicinal shops and beautifully manicured parks and gardens.

Distant Journeys includes a two night outbound stopover at the four star Copthorne Kings Hotel on the Wonders of Australia and Highlights of Australia & New Zealand tours.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £245pp
Single room price £395



Hong Kong Regal Kowloon Hotel

Hong Kong is a modern city and one of the world's largest financial hubs; yet its modern face hides a surprisingly traditional culture. The city is bursting with energy and its panorama of sky-scrapered Hong Kong Island, seen across the harbour from Kowloon, is simply stunning.

The four star Regal Kowloon Hotel is based on the Kowloon Peninsula - which offers a wide array of shopping and dining possibilities.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £345pp
Single room price £545



Our partner airlines

Award-winning scheduled airlines

At Distant Journeys, we appreciate how important it is to make sure your holiday starts and ends on a high. That's why we have chosen only high quality, award-winning airlines. Qantas' partnership with Emirates means you can choose from five convenient departure airports: London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow, all at no extra cost. Additionally, if you're taking one of our New Zealand tours, you have the option of flying with Singapore Airlines from London Heathrow. On the Spectacular South Africa tour, you will fly from London Heathrow with South African Airways. Connecting flights are available from a choice of regional airports at no extra cost: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Newcastle, Manchester or Leeds Bradford.



International Economy Class (included in your holiday price)

- Up to 18.1" seat width, 31" seat pitch and 6" seat recline
- Ergonomic seat cushioning optimised for long haul flights
- A unique 'footnet' to elevate the feet
- A widescreen digital 10.6" touch screen entertainment monitor
- Over 1,500 entertainment options
- Premium wines

International Premium Economy Class* (from £1,495pp supplement for a return trip)

- Priority check-in and boarding
- Pre take-off drinks including champagne
- Extra-wide up to 19.5", ergonomically designed seat, up to 42" seat pitch and 9" seat recline
- Integrated leg rest with fold-out foot rest
- In-arm entertainment, noise cancelling headsets
- Restaurant style meal service Q-Eat
- Premium quilted blanket and pillow

International Business Class (from £3,295pp supplement for a return trip)

- Complimentary chauffeur drive[^]
- A seat that transforms into a fully flat, extra-long bed with an increased seat pitch of 80"
- Turndown service with rolled mattress, full pillow and quilted blanket
- Pyjamas and amenity kits
- On board lounge with large comfortable sofa and self-service bar (A380)
- Priority check-in, lounge access and priority boarding
- A larger 12.1" in-arm entertainment screen



International Economy Class (included in your holiday price)

- Typical seat pitch of 32"
- Seats may be pre-selected at no charge
- In-flight entertainment system ICE offers up to 2,000 channels of entertainment
- Choose from a menu of old favourites and new dining creations
- A range of complimentary beers, spirits, and hot and cold beverages
- Premium wines

International Premium Economy Class (not available on Emirates aircraft)

International Business Class (from £3,295pp supplement for a return trip)

- Complimentary chauffeur drive[^]
- A seat that transforms into a fully flat, extra-long bed with an increased seat pitch
- Turndown service
- Amenity kits
- On board lounge with large comfortable sofa and self-service bar (A380)
- Priority check-in, lounge access and priority boarding
- A larger 12.1" in-arm entertainment screen
- Room service breakfast and Express meal options
- Fine dining meals all presented on Royal Doulton fine bone china, with complimentary champagne and vintage wines



International Economy Class (included in your holiday price)

- 32" seat pitch, 18" seat width & 6" recline
- Seats may be pre-selected at no charge
- Over 1,000 entertainment options available on KrisWorld
- Great selection of Asian and international dishes
- A range of beverages to enhance your meals, plus premium wines
- New backrest on seats for extra comfort

International Premium Economy Class (from £1,395pp supplement for a return trip)†

- Priority check-in and boarding
- In-flight champagne with curated red and white wines
- Leather-upholstered seats with 38" pitch, 18.5-19.5" seat width & 8" recline
- Separate cabin
- Premium Economy Book the Cook service
- Active noise-cancelling headphones
- More than 1,000 on-demand entertainment options

International Business Class (from £3,995pp supplement for a return trip)

- 28" wide seat converts to a fully-flat bed, 78" in length
- An impressive 15.4-inch wide HD resolution LCD screen and noise-cancellation headphone
- Amenity kits
- Priority check-in, lounge access and priority boarding
- Champagne and a selection of red and white wines



International Economy Class (included in your holiday price)

- Typical seat pitch of 33.5"
- On demand in-flight entertainment, with a selection of over 100 movies and TV shows at any one time
- Excellent dining, thoughtfully prepared by award-winning chefs
- A range of complimentary beers, spirits, and hot and cold beverages
- Premium wines

International Premium Economy Class (not available on South African Airways aircraft)

International Business Class (from £3,195pp supplement for a return trip)

- A seat that transforms into a lie flat, extra-long bed with an increased seat pitch of up to 73"
- Comfort bags with everything you need to travel in relaxation
- Priority check-in, lounge access and priority boarding
- A larger 12" in-arm entertainment screen
- Restaurant quality a-la-carte dining on board, perfectly accompanied by award-winning South African wines



Airline information

Prices in Premium Economy and Business Class are based on travel in certain periods and will be higher at other times of the year. The supplement price is subject to the availability of flights in the lowest booking class. *Premium Economy with Qantas is only available from London Heathrow and the only stopover option is Dubai - please call for more details. ^Chauffeur drive is available on selected routes within 70 miles of the airport. †Singapore Airlines do not currently have a Premium Economy cabin on flights between Christchurch and Singapore.

| Helpful travel information



We've compiled some helpful travel information to answer your questions and help you prepare for your holiday. You will be able to find more detailed information on the subjects covered below and other frequently asked questions on the FAQ section of our website www.distantjourneys.co.uk. Alternatively, feel free to call one of our travel experts on 01695 577 961.

Weather

Australia enjoys temperate weather for most of the year but the climate varies hugely from state to state due to the vast size of the country. The northern states typically experience very hot weather much of the time, with the southern states experiencing cooler winters. Australia is also one of the driest countries on earth with an average annual rainfall of less than 600 millimetres. Like all countries in the southern hemisphere, Australia's seasons are opposite to those in the northern hemisphere. No matter what time of year you visit Australia, the sun can be extremely powerful and it's important to guard against sunburn and dehydration. A high factor sunscreen, a sun hat, sunglasses and plenty of water are essential.

New Zealand is blessed with mild temperatures, moderate rainfall, and many hours of sunshine. While the Bay of Islands in the far north has subtropical weather during summer, inland alpine areas of the South Island can be relatively cold in winter. As most of the country lies close to the coast, temperatures are generally mild. During summer months, daylight can last up until 9.30pm and as New Zealand experiences relatively little air pollution compared to many other countries, this makes the UV rays in New Zealand's sunlight very strong. A high factor sunscreen, a sun hat and sunglasses are essential, regardless of the time of year you visit.

South Africa's seasons are opposite to those in the northern hemisphere, and the different areas of the country have quite distinct weather patterns. In the Western Cape areas of Cape Town and the Garden Route, summers tend to be warm, cooled by ocean breezes; with rain falling occasionally. Durban and Ubizane are found in KwaZulu-Natal, which has very hot summers. A high factor sunscreen, sun hat, sunglasses and plenty of water are essential. Johannesburg and Pretoria situated at altitude on the highveld plateau and frequently enjoy hot spring and summer days and the occasional thunder shower. Because of the altitude, it can be cooler in the evenings.

For a more detailed guide to temperatures, rainfall and general weather patterns, please refer to the FAQ section on our website.

Clothing

Dress in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa is generally relaxed and informal during the day, dressing to suit the weather conditions and the activity you are undertaking. Evening dinners are also informal, with smart casual dress being the norm. Exploring the countries you visit will mean some walking on uneven surfaces, so we recommend sturdy and comfortable walking shoes. Wearing layers of clothing means it's easier to deal with potentially varied weather conditions you might experience and it's always advisable to carry a waterproof. When visiting Australia's Red Centre, some guests appreciate taking a fly net which can be placed over a hat to keep the flies away.

Whilst on safari in South Africa, it is recommended to wear natural colours such as khaki, green or beige as bright colours can attract insects and cause diversions for the wildlife. For the game drives (which take place in the morning and evening in open vehicles) we recommend sun lotion and hats as well as warm clothing, as it can get very cold. When travelling on Rovos Rail, evening meals are a more formal affair, in keeping with the elegant surroundings of the dining car. Men are encouraged to wear a jacket and tie, and women a cocktail / evening dress or suit. Other meals are smart casual.

Passports

We can only advise of the requirements for British and Irish citizens holding a full British or Irish passport. For passports endorsed in any way and all other passport holders, requirements should be checked with the relevant embassy. You should ensure that you have a valid ten year passport and, as many countries require expiry dates on passports to be a considerable length of time after the return from holiday, your passport should be valid for at least 6 months after your return to the UK. Requirements may change and you must check the up to date position in good time before departure. A full British passport presently takes approximately 2 to 6 weeks to obtain. General passport information may be found on the Identity and Passport Service website: www.ips.gov.uk

When travelling to South Africa, your passport should have at least two blank pages when you present it at immigration to enter or leave South Africa. If you are extending your holiday to Victoria Falls, we recommend you have a minimum of four blank pages left in it. When in Victoria Falls, you may wish to take an optional safari excursion to Chobe National Park in Botswana. If doing so, the Botswana government has stated that dual nationals using two different passports can only enter the country on the same passport they used to exit the previous country.

Visas

It is your responsibility to ensure you are in possession of all necessary travel, passport, visa, other entry requirements and health documents before departure. All costs incurred in obtaining such documentation must be paid by you. We regret we cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry all required documentation. At the time of going to print (September 2016), British and Irish Citizens do not require a visa for entry into Dubai, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong or New Zealand. If you're visiting South Africa for tourism or business purposes for a period of up to 90 days, you do not need a visa.

Visitors to Australia however, will require an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). Applications for ETAs will be processed by Distant Journeys for a charge of £25 per ETA. An ETA is valid for 12 months and allows you multiple entries into Australia with a maximum duration of three months per entry. When you arrive at your departure airport, the airline check-in team can electronically confirm you have the necessary authority to board the flight to Australia. An ETA is equivalent to a visa but there is no stamp or label in your passport. Please note: if you don't hold a British or Irish passport you may require a full visa. Please contact the Australian consulate for details.

If travelling to Victoria Falls you will require a visa, which may be applied for online prior to travel, although it is easy to arrange on arrival into Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The approximate cost of visas for British and Irish passport

holders is US\$55 per person for a single entry and US\$70 per person for double entry. Payment for the visa should be made on arrival at Victoria Falls, and we recommend you have the correct amount in US Dollars as sometimes change cannot be given. If you are considering taking a trip to neighbouring Botswana (for Chobe National Park), we recommend purchasing the double entry visa. British nationals do not need a visa to enter Botswana for stays of up to 90 days.

Travelling to South Africa with children (under 18)

If travelling with a child aged under 18, the immigration rules in South Africa require the parents to show a full unabridged birth certificate of that child (or a certified copy). It is important that you take the full unabridged version of the birth certificate, which lists not only the child's details but also the details of both parents. The shortened or abridged version of the birth certificate, which does not list the parents' particulars, will not be accepted. The South African Department of Affairs will not accept copies of birth certificates which are uncertified or copies of the parents/guardians identification. Please note, there are further details required if a child is travelling unaccompanied, with just one parent, or with neither biological parent.

Health & vaccinations

Health facilities, hygiene and disease risk vary worldwide. You should take health advice about your specific needs as early as possible and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough (which may be a month or more prior to departure) to be fully effective by the date of travel. Information on health is contained in the Department of Health leaflet T7 (Health Advice for Travellers) available from the Department of Health on 0870 1555 455, via its website www.dh.gov.uk, and from most Post Offices. Advice may change and you should check the most up to date position with your GP or local health / travel clinic in good time before departure. If you have any pre-existing medical conditions or walking difficulties, you should inform us at the time of booking.

In South Africa, Victoria Falls and Zimbabwe, many of the main tourist areas are we visit are malaria-free. However, some of the areas we visit may pose a low malaria risk in the summer months. We strongly recommend you take malaria prophylaxis, and consult your doctor or a specialist travel clinic for the latest advice concerning the best malaria prophylaxis for you and the areas you are visiting, as it changes regularly.



For a no obligation quote from our travel insurance partners Avanti Insurance, call 0800 677 1055 or visit www.distantjourneys-travelinsurance.co.uk

Travel insurance and the RHCA

It is a condition of travelling with Distant Journeys that you take out sufficient and appropriate travel insurance. We recommend you do this at the time of booking so that your deposit (less any applicable excess) is covered in the event of a cancellation covered by the policy.

Distant Journeys works alongside Avanti Travel Insurance to offer you comprehensive single trip and annual multi-trip Travel Insurance Schemes. Avanti Travel Insurance are specialists in travel insurance for over 50s, and those with medical conditions. They have also been awarded a five star rating by the independent agency Defaqto, in recognition of their excellent product with a range of features and benefits.

We'd also like to bring to your attention a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) between the Australian Government and the United Kingdom Government, which covers visitors for any medical treatment required due to ill-health or injury occurred during your stay in Australia only. While this agreement means visitors may receive treatment in Australia, we'd like to emphasise that this should not replace the need for having adequate travel insurance to cover potential medical expenses. Please note there are certain requirements that you must fulfil before departing from Australia: you'll need to discuss any charges with the hospital staff or doctor that is treating you, and you must enrol at a Medicare office in Australia at the earliest opportunity. To enrol in Medicare you will need your passport with a valid visa and identification to prove that you're enrolled in your country's national health scheme. If you receive treatment before you enrol, you may be required to pay for treatment costs in advance.

Currency, credit cards and currency cards

The currency of New Zealand is the New Zealand Dollar. The currency of Australia is the Australian Dollar. The currency in South Africa is the South African Rand and in Victoria Falls the US Dollar and South African Rand are widely accepted. For small purchases, local currency is advantageous. Many locations accept major credit cards. Cash machines are located at many stops. The currency for stopover destinations vary, please check the best currency for your destination before departure.

When travelling to Australia or New Zealand, a currency card is a simple way to buy currency and lock in a great exchange rate before you travel. Distant Journeys recommends the 'Global Traveller' MasterCard, provided by Caxton FX, for our guests' currency requirements. The MasterCard is a convenient way to pay at over 35 million outlets worldwide, and is 'chip and PIN' secure. It is also simple to set up and use. Australian Dollars or New Zealand Dollars (or both) may be added to the card before travel using a debit card. The exchange rate is then locked in and will not change, irrespective of fluctuations in exchange rates before or during your holiday.

More details on the Caxton FX currency cards may be found in the FAQ section on our website.

Travel extras

To help you put the finishing touches to your Australia, New Zealand or South Africa holiday, Distant Journeys works in partnership with A2BTravel Extras, who supply a range of UK airport hotels, UK airport lounges, UK airport parking and airport transfers. More details on A2B Travel Extras may be found in the FAQ section on our website.

Baggage allowance

You're entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44lbs) dependent on which airline you choose. Personal and valuable items such as make-up, cameras, medication, money / credit cards etc. should be carried in a travel bag or on your person. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried.

Baggage on The Ghan

Due to space restrictions on The Ghan passengers are required to carry an overnight bag for all your requirements whilst on board. The remainder of the luggage will be checked into a dedicated luggage compartment.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted inside tourist coaches and hotels. We'll endeavour to ensure there are frequent stops on any coach trip, however we can't guarantee smoking facilities will be available.

Seat rotation on coaches

We offer a fair system of seat rotation to allow all passengers to experience a variety of views from different parts of the touring coach. Exceptions can't be made to this policy.

Porterage and tipping

Hotel porterage for one piece of luggage per person is included in the price of your holiday. In general, it's not customary to tip in restaurants in Australia and New Zealand. In South African restaurants and bars, 10 - 15% is the accepted tipping standard, as it is for taxi drivers. Hotel porters would normally expect a tip of ZAR 10.

If you have received great service from your Coach Captain, Tour Manager or guides, you may wish to tip them for their service. We are frequently asked for guidance on this, and would suggest £1-2 per person per touring day, dependent on your level of satisfaction.

Optional tours

During your tour, you can book onto a range of optional activities through your Coach Captain / Tour Manager during your Freedom Days. Optional tours are at an additional cost, subject to availability and seasonal operations, and may be subject to minimum/maximum numbers. Full details on optional excursions may be found on our website alongside the itineraries of each individual tour.

ATOL protection

Our ATOL number is 10913. All the flight inclusive holidays in this brochure or on our website are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you book, you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. For more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate

Booking Conditions

IMPORTANT: The following terms and conditions together with the general information contained in our tour brochure form the basis of your contract with Distant Journeys Limited. Please read them carefully as they set out our respective rights and obligations.

By asking us to confirm your booking, we are entitled to believe that you have had the opportunity to read and have read these booking conditions and agree to them. Except where otherwise stated, these booking conditions only apply to the tour arrangements shown in this brochure (including accommodation required both before and after your main holiday and activities and other services) which you book with us and pay for before departure from the UK and which we agree to make, provide or perform (as applicable) as part of our contract with you.

All references in these booking conditions to "holiday", "booking", "tour" or "arrangements" mean such tour arrangements unless otherwise stated. Please be aware that your deposit is non-refundable.

In these booking conditions:

"Force Majeure" means any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events are likely to include, but are not limited to (whether actual or threatened) war, terrorism, fire, flood or any other unusual weather conditions, loss of power, epidemics or pandemics, industrial disputes, slow-downs or other strike activities, riots or civil disturbances, acts of government, government agencies or other authorities, inability to obtain any necessary licence or consent through no fault of ours and any other event or circumstances beyond the control of us or any supplier of any part of your tour. "You", "your" and "yourself" means each person who makes a booking with us for a tour and/ or who is named on the booking (including anyone who is added or substituted at a later stage) and, where appropriate, all such persons. "We", "us" and "our" means Distant Journeys Limited trading as Distant Journeys.

Bookings

1. All bookings are made pursuant to these terms and conditions.
2. It is a condition of booking that you are fit and able to take care of yourself for the duration of the tour. We welcome passengers with disabilities or special needs provided they are accompanied by a companion capable of providing all assistance required. If you have any medical condition or disability which may affect your tour or any special requirements as a result of any medical condition or disability (including any which affect the booking process), please tell us before you confirm your booking so that we can assist you in considering the suitability of the arrangements and/or making the booking. We reserve the right to refuse to carry any person who we deem cannot fully care for themselves on tour without assistance or whenever we reasonably feel unable to accommodate the needs or restrictions of any particular passenger. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance to a passenger for walking, dining, pushing their wheelchair, getting on and off motor coaches or other transportation vehicles or other personal needs. Passengers who need such assistance must be accompanied by a companion who is capable of providing all assistance required.
You must also notify us of any changes or deterioration in the disability or medical condition or development of any disability or medical condition after booking. We further reserve the right to cancel your booking and impose cancellation charges if we are not fully advised of any relevant disability or medical condition at the time the booking is made and/or promptly notified of any development, change or deterioration occurring after booking. On occasions, the decision to cancel can only be made

at the time the person concerned joins the tour as it may only be apparent at this stage that their disability or medical condition cannot be accommodated.

Any passenger affected by a disability or medical condition must ensure they have notified this to their travel insurers and that their travel insurance will cover it. We may refuse to allow you on the tour or may have to terminate your participation in your tour if your mental or physical condition is such as to render you, in the reasonable opinion of any representative of ours or any carrier or other person in authority, incapable of caring for yourself or a hazard to yourself or other passengers. We will not be liable for any expenses arising from your being precluded from joining or completing the tour for any such reason and no refunds or compensation will be paid.

Please note, the Milford Mariner overnight cruise on the Magnificent New Zealand tour is unable to accommodate wheelchair bound passengers.
3. The operation of all tours is conditional on us securing the minimum number of bookings required to operate the tour and to ensure an enjoyable group atmosphere. Where sufficient numbers cannot be achieved, we reserve the right to cancel or change a scheduled tour. Please also see clauses 22 and 23. We will endeavour to make any decision to cancel or significantly change a tour no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date of the tour but in any event will notify you no less than 30 days prior to the departure date of the tour.
4. If you are a single passenger and your booking is not a 'Happy to Share' booking, the applicable single supplement will be added to your invoice at the time of your booking.

5. If you are a single passenger and you have booked a 'Happy to Share' reservation and we have been unable to accommodate you with another passenger of the same gender we will accommodate you in a room by yourself throughout the tour at no additional cost. If we are able to match you, Distant Journeys cannot be responsible for the person you are sharing with. If you choose to change to a single room whilst on tour, you will be responsible for all the additional costs.
6. For reservations which include The Ghan single passengers and those 'Happy to Share' passengers that we have been unable to pair you with another passenger of the same gender will be accommodated in single berth sleeper cabins with wash basin. Showers and toilets are available at the end of each compartment. 'Happy to Share' passengers who have been paired up may be accommodated in either a twin share cabin or two single sleeper cabins.

7. If you have any special requests (including dietary requirements) you must notify us at the time of booking. Please note special requests cannot be guaranteed. Failure to meet any special request will not be a breach of contract by us. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier of any service(s) or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed by us in writing, all special requests are subject to availability. We cannot accept any conditional bookings, i.e. any booking which is specified to be conditional on the fulfilment of a particular request. All such bookings will be treated as "standard" bookings subject to the above provisions on special requests.

Payment

8. To secure any booking, you must pay the applicable deposit or full payment if booking 90 days or less before the start of the tour. The deposit is £1,000 per person if travelling in economy flight class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy class or £3,750 per person if travelling in business flight class. The deposit or full payment, as applicable, must be received by us within 7 days of booking to ensure your place on the tour is held.

Bookings will be automatically cancelled if the applicable deposit or full payment, as applicable, is not received by us within this 7 day period and we will have no further liability to you. A payment supplement may apply to credit card transactions.
9. Deposits are non-transferable and non-refundable except as expressly set out in these terms and conditions. We therefore recommend that you have adequate insurance to cover this.

10. The balance of the tour price (after deduction of the applicable deposit) must be received by us no less than 90 days prior to the start of your tour. If we do not receive all payments due (including any surcharge where applicable) in full and on time, we are entitled to believe that you wish to cancel your booking. In this case, we will be entitled to keep all deposits paid or due at that date. If we do not cancel straight away because you have promised to make payment, you must pay the cancellation charges shown in clause 26 depending on the date we reasonably treat your booking as cancelled.

Credit card surcharge

11. If you pay us by debit card or credit card, the following surcharges will be added to your tour price

Card type	Fee on deposit	Fee on all other payments
Debit Card	0%	0%
Credit Card	1.2%	1.2%

Your contract

12. Subject to availability we will confirm your booking by issuing our confirmation invoice. This invoice will be sent to the lead name on the booking ("Lead Name"). Please check this invoice carefully as soon as you receive it. Contact us immediately if any information on the confirmation or any other document appears to be incorrect or incomplete as it may not be possible to make changes later. We cannot accept any liability if not notified of any inaccuracy in any document within 14 days of our sending it out (5 days for tickets). We will do our best to rectify any mistake notified to us outside these time limits but you must meet any costs involved in doing so.

13. A binding contract between you and us comes into existence when we dispatch our confirmation invoice for all bookings. We both agree that English law (and no other) will apply to your contract and to any dispute, claim or other matter of any description which arises between us ("claim") (except as set out below). We both also agree that any claim (and whether or not involving any personal injury) must be dealt with by the Courts of England and Wales only unless, in the case of court proceedings, you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland. In this case, proceedings must either be brought in the courts of your home country or those of England and Wales. If proceedings are brought in Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may choose to have your contract and any claim governed by the law of Scotland/Northern Ireland as applicable (but if you do not so choose, English law will apply).

What are your tour obligations?

14. (a) You must follow the Tour Director's or Coach Captain's instructions at all times to ensure on tour safety. You acknowledge that failure to do so may result in restricted access to places of interest on tour, or if necessary for your own safety and/or that of other passengers, withdrawal from the Tour. (b) If we, or our staff or suppliers are of the view you are negatively affecting your own health, safety or environment or that of other passengers, we can oblige you to withdraw from the tour immediately. We will not be liable to you for any loss, cost or damage resulting from your withdrawal. If you are withdrawn from the tour, you must make your own return travel arrangements at your own expense. (c) You must make your own enquiries regarding your tour, including being aware of any relevant government travel or safety warnings.

Tour price

15. We reserve the right to increase/decrease our advertised tour prices at any time before your booking is confirmed. We also reserve the right to correct any errors in any tour price. We will advise you of any error of which we are aware and of the then applicable price at the time of booking. Once the tour price has been confirmed at the time of booking, clause 16 below will apply.

No surcharge guarantee

16. We guarantee that no surcharge will be added to the basic price of your holiday once your booking has been confirmed, irrespective of any fluctuation in currency exchange rates, increases in international air fares, or increases in other costs associated with your holiday. In return for this guarantee and its risk to us, we shall not be able to make any refunds in the event of favourable exchange rate variations or other decreases in costs which would otherwise result in the reduction of the selling price. This price promise does not apply to optional services including, but not limited to; visa charges, excursions and amendment fees. The price promise excludes increases in airport or other taxes imposed by British or overseas governments, increases in Air Passenger Duty, or any increases by British or overseas governments relating to improved passenger security. For bookings made within the balance due date and prior to confirming your holiday we reserve the right to notify you of any price increases to your holiday as a result of any additional costs we may incur.

Tour features

17. The features of the tour are set out in the tour brochure.
18. We make no representations about the features of any tour other than those expressly set out in the tour brochure and these terms and conditions.

Brochure validity

19. The tour brochure and these terms and conditions are valid for the departure dates as stated in the tour brochure, or additional departure dates we may introduce, unless otherwise expressly advised by us.

Variation or cancellation by us

20. Subject to clauses 21, 22 and 23, we reserve the right to alter or change the accommodation, carriers, vehicles, vessels or any other service(s) which form part of any tour at any time for any reason and cancel or alter the itinerary and/or tour at any time without notice as we consider necessary for any reason whatsoever including road, weather or traffic conditions, non-performance of suppliers, industrial action, operational conditions and requirements, water level problems, excessive winds or Force Majeure. Errors in the details of advertised and/or confirmed tours and/or other details occasionally occur and we reserve the right to correct these whenever they occur.

21. In the event of industrial action affecting air, rail, cruise or other tour related transportation we will make every effort to contact the lead name and advise of alternative arrangements (if any).
22. Most changes made to a confirmed tour are minor. Occasionally, we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour and we must reserve the right to do so. A significant change is a change made before departure which, taking account of the information you give us at the time of booking or which we can reasonably be expected to know as a tour operator, we can reasonably expect to have a significant effect on your tour. If we have to make a significant change or cancel, we will tell you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before departure, you will be offered the following options: (a) (for significant changes) accepting the changed arrangements or (b) purchasing alternative arrangements from us, of a similar standard to those booked if available, with you paying a supplement if the alternative arrangements are more expensive than those originally booked or (c) cancelling or

accepting the cancellation and receiving a full refund of all monies you have paid to us. Please note, the above options are not available where any change made is a minor one.

23. If we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour, we will in addition to the options set out in clause 22 pay you reasonable compensation if and as appropriate subject to the following exceptions. Compensation will not be payable and no liability beyond offering the options set out in clause 22 can be accepted where (1) we are forced to make a change or cancel as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which we could not have avoided even with all due care or (2) we have to cancel because the minimum number of bookings necessary for us to operate your tour has not been reached - see clause 3. No compensation will be payable and the options set out in clause 22 will not be available if we have to cancel as a result of your failure to comply with any requirement of these terms and conditions entitling us to cancel (such as paying on time). A change of flight time of less than 12 hours, airline (except as specified in clauses 51-54 "Flights"), type of aircraft (if advised) or destination airport will all be treated as minor changes.
24. Very rarely, we may be forced by Force Majeure to change or terminate your tour after departure but before the scheduled end of your time away. This is extremely unlikely but if this situation does occur, we will be unable to make any refunds (unless we obtain any refunds from our suppliers which we do not use to pay for alternative services), pay you any compensation or meet any costs or expenses you incur as a result.

Amendment or cancellation by you

25. If you wish to make any amendments to your confirmed booking you must notify us in writing as soon as possible. It may not always be possible to make such amendments. Where we can, an amendment fee of £75 per person, per booking will be payable together with any costs incurred by ourselves and any costs or charges incurred or imposed by any of our suppliers. A change of tour dates will normally be treated as a cancellation of the original booking and rebooking in which case cancellation charges will apply. Changes may result in the recalculation of the tour price where, for example, the basis on which the price of the original tour was calculated has changed.

26. You may cancel your booking by notice to us in writing and payment of the applicable cancellation fee as shown below. Cancellation notifications are not effective until received by us in writing (if received by us on a weekend day or public holiday the notification will be treated as having been received by us on the next working day). The following cancellation fees apply to each individual person who cancels and where shown as a percentage are based on the total cost of the arrangements which are being cancelled excluding any insurance premiums, amendment fee or previously incurred cancellation charges which are all non-refundable in the event of your cancellation:

CANCELLATION FEES

Period before your tour commences within which written notification of cancellation is received by us:

Tour cancellation period	Fee per person
91 days and over	Loss of Deposit
90 days to 75 days	50% of holiday price
74 days to 60 days	60% of holiday price
59 days to 30 days	75% of holiday price
29 days or less	100% of holiday price

NB Transferring to another departure date is treated as a cancellation and the cancellation fees above will apply. Depending on the reason for cancellation, you may be able to reclaim these cancellation charges (less any applicable excess) under the terms of your insurance policy. Claims must be made directly to the insurance company concerned.

Our liability

27. We will ensure that the tour arrangements we have agreed to make, perform or provide as applicable as part of our contract with you are made, performed or provided with reasonable skill and care. This means that, subject to these terms and conditions, we will accept responsibility if, for example, you suffer death or personal injury or your contracted tour arrangements are not provided as promised or prove deficient as a result of the failure of us, our employees, agents or suppliers to use reasonable skill and care in making, performing or providing, as applicable, your contracted tour arrangements. Please note, it is your responsibility to show that reasonable skill and care has not been used if you wish to make a claim against us. In addition, we will only be responsible for what our employees, agents and suppliers do or do not do if they were at the time acting within the course of their employment (for employees) or carrying out work we had asked them to do (for agents and suppliers).

28. We will not be responsible for any injury, illness, death, loss (including loss of enjoyment or possessions), damage, expense, cost or other sum or claim of any description whatsoever which results from any of the following:

- the act(s) and/or omission(s) of the person(s) affected or any member(s) of their party or
- the act(s) and/or omission(s) of a third party not connected with the provision of your tour and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable or
- Force Majeure.

29. We cannot accept responsibility for any services which do not form part of our contract with you. This includes, for example, any additional services or facilities which any hotel or other supplier agrees to provide for you where the services or facilities are not advertised in our tour brochure as part of your tour and we have not agreed to arrange them as part of our contract and any excursion or other services you purchase during your tour. Where any such excursion or services are purchased through or with our assistance, please note that we act only as booking agent. Your contract will be with the operator or provider of the excursion or services in question. We have no liability in relation to the same. In addition, regardless of any wording used by us on our website, in any of our brochures or elsewhere, we only promise to use reasonable skill and care as set out above and we do not have any greater or different liability to you.

30. The promises we make to you about the services we have agreed to provide or arrange as part of our contract and the laws and regulations of the country in which your claim or complaint occurred will be used as the basis for deciding whether the tour arrangements in question had been properly provided. If the particular arrangements which gave rise to the claim or complaint complied with the then applicable local laws and regulations, the services will be treated as having been properly performed or provided. This will be the case even if the arrangements did not comply with the laws and regulations of the UK which would have applied had those arrangements been provided in the UK. The exception to this is where the claim or complaint concerns the absence of a safety feature which might lead a reasonable tour participant to refuse to take the tour in question. Please note, however, our obligation is to exercise reasonable skill and care as referred to in clause 27. We do not make any representation or commitment that all services will comply with applicable local laws and regulations, and failure to comply does not automatically mean we have not exercised reasonable skill and care.
31. Where we are found liable for loss of and/ or damage to any luggage or personal possessions (including money), the maximum amount we will have to pay you is £1,000 per person affected unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under this clause or clause 32 below. For all other claims which do not involve death or personal injury, if we are

found liable to you on any basis the maximum amount we will have to pay you is twice the price (excluding insurance premiums and amendment fees) paid by or on behalf of the person(s) affected in total unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under clause 32 below. This maximum amount will only be payable where everything has gone wrong and you have not received any benefit at all from your tour.

32. Where any claim or part of a claim (including those involving death or personal injury) concerns or is based on any travel arrangements (including the process of getting on and/or off the transport concerned) provided by any air, sea or rail carrier to which any international convention or EU regulation applies, the maximum amount of compensation we will have to pay you will be limited. The most we will have to pay you for that claim or that part of a claim if found liable to you on any basis is the most the carrier concerned would have to pay under the international convention or regulation which applies to the travel arrangements in question (for example, the Warsaw Convention as amended or unedited and the Montreal Convention for international travel by air and/or for airlines with an operating licence granted by an EU country, the EC Regulation on Air Carrier Liability No 889/2002 for national and international travel by air, the Athens Convention for international travel by sea (as amended by the 2002 Protocol with effect from 31st December 2012) and COTIF, the Convention on International Travel by rail. Please note: where a carrier or hotelier would not be obliged to make any payment to you under and in accordance with the applicable international convention or regulation in respect of a claim or part of a claim, we similarly are not obliged to make a payment to you for that claim or part of the claim. When making any payment, we are entitled to deduct any money which you have received or are entitled to receive from the carrier for the claim in question. Copies of the applicable international conventions and regulations are available from us on request.

33. Please note, we cannot accept any liability for any damage, loss, expense or other sum(s) of any description (1) which on the basis of the information given to us by you concerning your booking prior to our accepting it, we could not have foreseen you would suffer or incur if we breached our contract with you or (2) which did not result from any breach of contract or other fault by ourselves or our employees or, where we are responsible for them, our suppliers. Additionally we cannot accept liability for any business losses including Self-employed loss of earnings.

34. You must provide ourselves and our insurers with all assistance we may reasonably require. You must also tell us and the supplier concerned about your claim or complaint as set out below. If asked to do so, you must transfer to us or our insurers any rights you have against the supplier or whoever else is responsible for your claim or complaint (if the person concerned is under 18, their parent or guardian must do so). You must also agree to co-operate fully with us and our insurers if we or our insurers want to enforce any rights which are transferred.

Carriers

35. The carriers (including airlines, rail carriers and sea carriers used in association with the tours) are not responsible for statements in the tour brochure or any of its features.

36. The applicable conditions of sale / carriage in use by the carriers will apply to you. These may limit or exclude the carriers' liability to you, usually in accordance with international conventions. Copies of these are available on request.

Force Majeure

37. Except where otherwise expressly stated in these terms and conditions we regret we cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of our obligations under our contract with you is prevented or affected by or you otherwise suffer any damage, loss or expense of any nature as a result of Force Majeure.

Risk and travel insurance

38. You acknowledge and accept that there are inherent risks associated with our tours for example events of Force Majeure, hazards of travelling in undeveloped areas, travel by boat, train, automobile, aircraft or other means of transportation particularly in underdeveloped countries or more remote locations, forces of nature, political unrest and accident, illness, epidemics or pandemics in regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. Baggage is entirely at your risk during the tour. We cannot accept any liability regarding the provision of medical care or the adequacy of any care that may be rendered.

39. Except as expressly set out in these terms and conditions you agree that we cannot accept any liability for, and you discharge and release us from all claims arising from or connected with any loss or harm suffered by you arising from any risk referred to in clause 38 or any other risk which you should have reasonably recognised as being inherent to your tour.

40. Distant Journeys cannot accept bookings for any persons without adequate travel insurance. We insist you take out appropriate travel insurance to cover as a minimum cancellation by you, loss of luggage, early return following death of a relative as defined in the respective proposal forms or emergency repatriation in the event of accident or illness for example. Please read your policy details carefully and take them with you on your tour. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance cover you purchase is suitable and adequate for your particular needs.

Itinerary changes and travel advice

41. During local or national holidays, certain facilities such as museums and restaurants, sightseeing tours and shopping may be limited or not available. Alternatives will be offered if possible.

42. Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide. You should take health advice about your specific needs as early as possible. Please see <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/> or call the Foreign Office Travel Bureau on 0845 850 2829 for up to date information. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office may have issued information about your tour destination. You are advised to check this information before you travel

Smoking

43. Smoking is not permitted inside tourist coaches and such other places as are prohibited by us or our suppliers from time to time. We will use reasonable endeavours to ensure there are frequent stops on any coach trip which are available for smoking, however we cannot guarantee these facilities will be available.

Baggage allowance

44. You are entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44 lbs). Hand luggage must have a total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 115cm (45 inches) and weight 5kg (11lbs). Personal and valuable items such as make-up, cameras, medication, passport, money/credit cards etc. should be carried in a travel bag or on your person. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried. Some carriers may impose a small surcharge per day for a second suitcase per person. Excess baggage is always at your cost.

Young travellers

45. Travellers who are less than 18 years old on the departure date must be accompanied by and share a room with an adult aged 18 or over. Children under 8 years of age cannot be accepted.

Complaints

46. If a problem occurs during your tour, you must advise our representative immediately so that steps can be taken to resolve the matter and you can continue to enjoy the remainder of your tour. You must also advise the supplier concerned. If you remain dissatisfied, any complaint must be made in writing to us giving full details within 30 days of the

end of the tour. If you fail to follow this procedure, your right to claim compensation you may otherwise have been entitled to may be affected or even lost as a result.

Tour price and duration

47. All prices in this brochure are quoted in English pounds (Sterling). All prices in this brochure are believed to be correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing but errors may occur and prices are subject to change. You must therefore ensure you check all details of your chosen tour (including the price) with us at the time of booking. The number of days duration stated in each itinerary includes day of departure and day of return. Tour durations may vary dependent on your choice of stopover and airline flight schedules and the itineraries in this brochure should be used as a guide only.

Included in your fare

48. All airfares from the UK in economy class (unless specified at the time of booking), coach travel and overseas transfers, service of a Tour Manger or Coach Captian (if applicable), portorage whilst on tour, airport transfers, meals as specified, accommodation as specified (please note, the third bed in a triple room may be a rollaway bed), sightseeing and admissions and other services as expressly indicated in the itinerary.

NOT included in your fare

49. Meals not specified in the itinerary, drinks unless specified in the itinerary, laundry, passport and visa fees, Dubai Tourism tax, expenses of a personal nature and any other items which are not expressly included in the cost of your tour. Changes to flight schedules may require additional overnight accommodation at either commencement or completion of tour which is at your own expense.

Airfare conditions

50. Your reservations consultant will book the most appropriate fare for your tour. Full details and conditions may be obtained from your travel consultant. Changes to original tickets will incur amendment or cancellation fees, are subject to availability and surcharges may apply. Please see clauses 25 and 26 above. Please note: all airfares are subject to routing restrictions. Airfares and applicable taxes are subject to increase without notice due to fare and tax changes, surcharges dependent on class available at time of booking and other factors outside our control. Please contact your travel consultant for the applicable rules and regulations. At the time of booking please ensure you supply your first name and surname as they appear on your passport, as both of these must be stated on your flight ticket. You may not be able to travel if the name on your passport and documents do not match. Any costs for ticket changes due to an incorrect name on paperwork which has been sent to you, will result in the cost being incurred by you.

Flights

51. For flight inclusive tours, the flight timings given on booking are for general guidance only and are subject to change. The latest timings will be shown on your confirmation invoice. As flights only become available to book around 11 months in advance, we are only able to confirm upgrade prices on booking your flights. However, the actual flight times will be those shown on your tickets which will be dispatched to you approximately two weeks before departure. You must accordingly check your tickets very carefully immediately on receipt to ensure you have the correct flight times. It is possible that flight times may be changed even after tickets have been dispatched - we will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs. Distant Journeys has no control over the allocation of seats by the airline, and even if you have requested directly with the airline to pre-book seats, no guarantees can be made. The provision of such seats does not constitute a term of your contract with Distant Journeys.

52. In accordance with EU Directive (EC) No 2111/2005, we are required to bring to your attention

the existence of a "Community List" which contains details of air carriers that are subject to an operating ban within the European Union. The Community list is available for inspection at

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air-ban/list_en.htm. We are also required to advise you of the carrier(s) (or, if the carrier(s) is not known, the likely carrier(s)) that will operate your flight(s) at the time of booking. Where we are only able to inform you of the likely carrier(s) at the time of booking, we shall inform you of the identity of the actual carrier(s) as soon as we become aware of this. Any change to the operating carrier(s) after your booking has been confirmed will be notified to you as soon as possible. Any change in the identity of the carrier, flight timings, and/or aircraft type (where advised) will not entitle you to cancel or change to other arrangements without paying our normal charges except where specified in these terms and conditions. If the carrier with whom you have a confirmed reservation becomes subject to an operating ban as above as a result of which we/ the carrier are unable to offer you a suitable alternative the provisions of clause 22 to 23 will apply.

53. If you suffer a delay in your outbound travel arrangements, we will do our best to ensure you make the start of your tour or, if this cannot be achieved, join it as soon as possible. Any costs we incur in making any alternative arrangements in this situation will be your responsibility. In the event of a flight delay, the airline concerned may provide refreshments and/or other assistance depending on factors such as the length of the delay, time of day and number of passengers affected. We cannot accept liability for any delay which is due to any of the reasons set out in clause 28 (which includes the behaviour of any passenger(s) on the flight who, for example, fails to check in or board on time).

54. If your flight is cancelled or delayed, your flight ticket is downgraded or boarding is denied by your airline, depending on the circumstances, the airline may be required to pay you compensation, refund the cost of your flight and/or provide you with accommodation and/or refreshments under EC Regulation No 261/2004 - the Denied Boarding Regulations 2004. Where applicable, you must pursue the airline for the compensation or other payment due to you. All sums you receive or are entitled to receive from the airline concerned by virtue of these Regulations represent the full amount of your entitlement to compensation or any other payment arising from such cancellation, delay, downgrading or denied boarding. This includes any disappointment, distress, inconvenience or effect on any other arrangements. The fact a delay may entitle you to cancel your flight does not automatically entitle you to cancel any other arrangements even where those arrangements have been made in conjunction with your flight. We have no liability to make any payment to you in relation to the Denied Boarding Regulations or in respect of any flight cancellation or delay, downgrading of any flight ticket or denial of any boarding as the full amount of your entitlement to any compensation or other payment (as dealt with above) is covered by the airline's obligations under the Denied Boarding Regulations. If for any reason, we make any payment to you or a third party which the airline is responsible for in accordance with the Denied Boarding Regulations, you must, when requested, assign to us the rights you have or had to claim the payment in question from the airline. If the airline does not comply with these rules, you may complain to the CAA on 020 7453 6888 or by e-mail to passengercomplaints@caa.co.uk or see www.caa.co.uk - Referring Your Complaint to the CAA.

Passports and Visas

55. You must have a valid passport with at least 6 months validity following your return date. It is your responsibility to ensure any visas required for countries to be visited on the tour have been obtained prior to the tour departure date. Failure to obtain correct documentation will mean you may be unable to participate in particular excursions and

may be denied boarding and/or entry into certain countries. Passport and visa entry requirements and costs are your sole responsibility. We cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry correct documentation. If failure to have any necessary travel or other documents results in fines, surcharges or other financial penalty being imposed on us, you will be responsible for reimbursing us accordingly.

Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) - Australia

All foreign travellers to Australia, other than New Zealand citizens, require an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) to travel and enter Australia. We are able to obtain this on your behalf, if required, at a cost of £25 per person. If you do not require us to obtain the ETA, you must make your own arrangements, as you will not be able to travel without one.

56. A full British passport presently takes approximately two to six weeks to obtain. If you are 16 or over and have not yet got a passport, you should apply for one at least six weeks before your departure from the UK. The UK Passport Service has to confirm an applicant's identity before issuing their first passport and will ask them to attend an interview in order to do this. If you are not a British citizen or hold a non-British passport, you must check passport and visa requirements with the Embassy or Consulate of the country(ies) to or through which you are intending to travel. Please note, all requirements may change and all clients must check the up to date position in good time before departure with the Embassy or consulate of the country(ies) you are travelling through and to.

57. Information on health is contained in the Department of Health leaflet T7.1 (Health Advice for Travellers) available from the Department of Health on 0870 1555 455 or via its website www.dh.gov.uk and most Post Offices. Advice may change and you should check the up to date position with your GP or local health / travel clinic in good time before departure.

Your Financial Protection

58. When you buy an ATOL protected flight or flight inclusive holiday from us you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong. We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought or a suitable alternative (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable). If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme.

Coaches

59. Seat Rotation. To ensure all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system is employed on all of our coaches and you must follow the seat rotation system.

60. If you suffer from travel sickness, you should arrange medication or other alternatives to treat symptoms as we cannot make allowances for this.

Clothing

61. We recommend casual and comfortable clothing. Please bring comfortable walking shoes for sightseeing. Dinner attire is generally smart casual. If travelling on Rovos Rail, evening attire is more formal - for gentlemen, a jacket and tie is a minimum requirement, while for ladies a cocktail / evening dress or suit is suggested.

Currency and credit cards

62. Currency will vary depending on your destination, please refer to your bank or local foreign exchange bureau. For small purchases in small towns, local currency is advantageous. Many locations accept major credit cards (fees may apply) and cash machines are located at some stops. Prior to departure you should confirm that your card and PIN will work in your destination countries.

Tour Manager

63. An experienced English-speaking Tour Manager OR Tour Managers OR Coach Captains accompany every tour. They are there to ensure your comfort, answer your questions and make your holiday relaxed and memorable.

Sightseeing tours

64. A number of towns and cities will be visited by way of walking tours and accordingly, a reasonable level of fitness is required as the sightseeing tour may involve steps and some walking over uneven surfaces.

65. Optional activities and dining are subject to availability, seasonal / operational factors and minimum / maximum numbers. More details on optional tours may be found on our website. On occasion, it may not be possible to arrange an included activity. Suitable alternatives will be arranged. Inclusions may also be subject to change.

Medical services

66. Medical services can usually be called rapidly. Medical costs are at client's own expense. Australia has a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) with the UK Government which helps to cover visitors' medical treatment within Australia. This can only be obtained whilst you are in Australia. Further details can be found at www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/medi-care/reciprocal-health-care-agreements. Distant Journeys is not responsible for the medical care provided. **WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND SUITABLE AND ADEQUATE TRAVEL INSURANCE.**

Images, photographs, maps and information

67. The photographs in the brochure and information provided represent typical scenes and descriptive detail for each tour, but it is possible that the subject matter may not be seen or experienced whilst on the tour itself. Some pictures may have been digitally enhanced.

68. All offers and pricing are subject to availability at the time of booking.

69. Maps or tour depictions contained in this brochure or any other brochures issued by Distant Journeys, are intended as an indication only and should not be relied upon as the actual route taken during the tour. Distant Journeys are not liable to you for any variation to the tour.

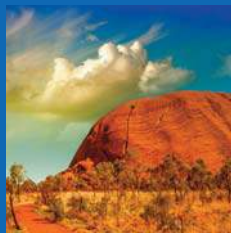
Amendments to terms and conditions

These terms and conditions may be subject to amendment from time to time. Amendments will be posted on the Distant Journeys website - www.distantjourneys.co.uk.

Published September 2016.

distantjourneys

Leisurely and flexible guided touring



BOOK NOW
Call our travel experts on
01695 577 961

Mon - Fri: 9 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
Sat: 9 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk

Visit: www.distantjourneys.co.uk

8 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AY

