

distantjourneys

2018 & 2019

Guided touring holidays

Australia
New Zealand
South Africa
India



BEST HOLIDAY COMPANY TO
AUSTRALASIA
★ SMALL ★

“ The holiday completely lived up to the high expectations we had after reading reviews online. The organisation was superb, the tour guides excellent, hotels well chosen for comfort, facilities and location.

Excellent value for money and would happily recommend to others. ”

Mr & Mrs Bryant, Yorkshire

Milford Mariner, New Zealand

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS



distantjourneys

Richard Hanson, Simon Whittle & Andrew Laycock
Directors - Distant Journeys

Distant Journeys use extensive experience and expertise to offer you a wonderful choice of touring holidays to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India. 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 60 years in the industry

Our Directors have over 60 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 specialists in the places we visit 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 not only Distant Journeys being awarded the 'Best Small Holiday Company to Australasia' at the British Travel Awards, but also a customer satisfaction rating, independently verified by Feefo, of over 99%.

Book with confidence and peace of mind

Fully bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority, ATOL no. 10913, you can book in confidence knowing you are securing your place on the best possible touring experience and your money is 100% safe!

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



The Distant Journeys difference

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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 portage and a welcome drink.

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 60 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.

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. 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.

7. Flexible group sizes

Most of our tours carry around 40 people - ideal for a sociable touring atmosphere. However, if you prefer to travel in a smaller group, our Icons of Australia tour takes no more than 24 people, offering a more intimate and personal style of touring.

8. Independent reviews

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



9. Award-winning holidays

In November 2016, Distant Journeys was named as the winner of the 'Best Small Holiday Company to Australasia' award at the prestigious British Travel Awards.

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. This is 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.



distantjourneys



The Ghan, Australia

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

with so much included

Distant Journeys' 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

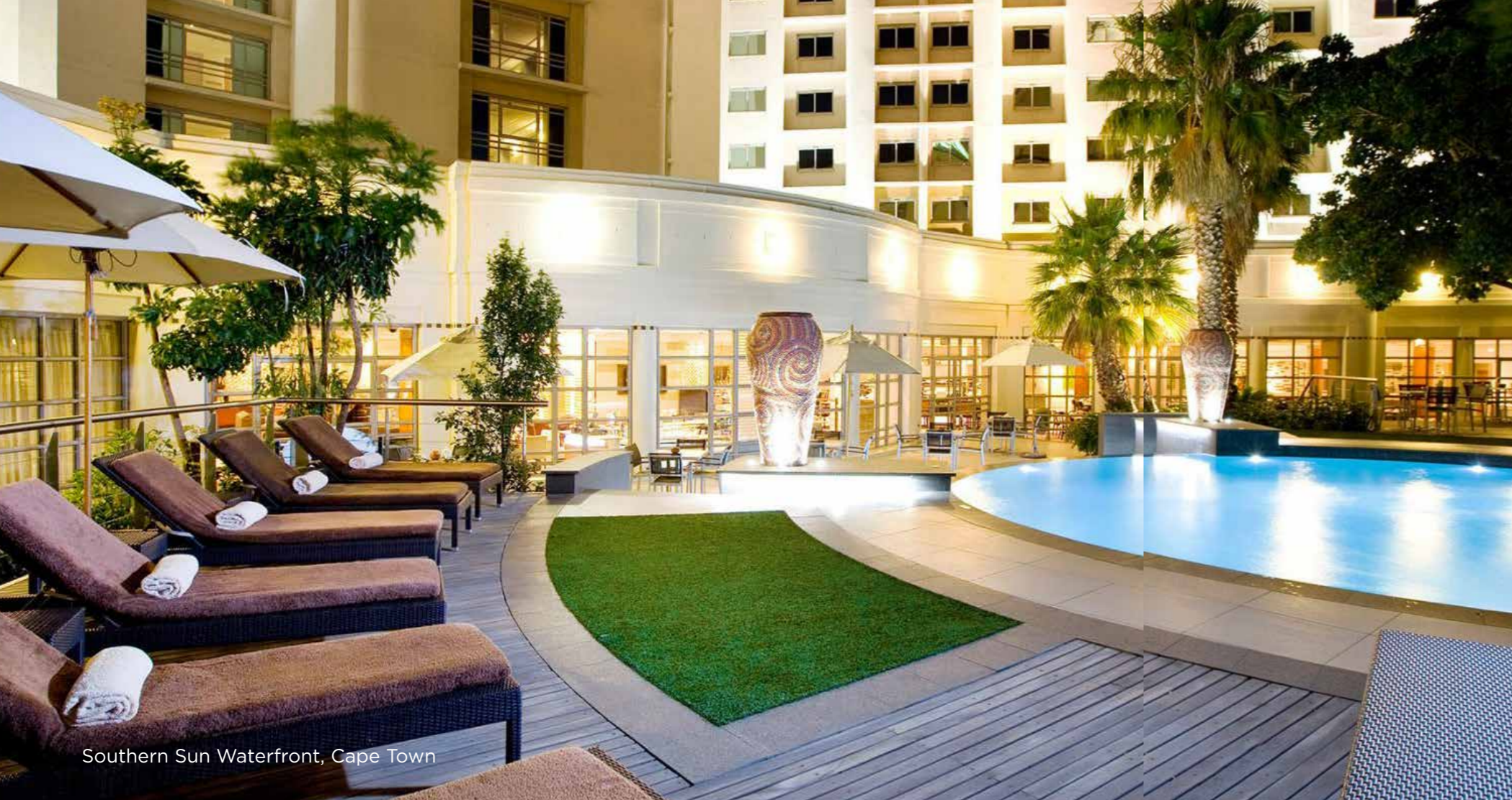
On a Distant Journeys holiday, you'll see all the sights you would hope for - plus you'll enjoy experiences you might not expect to find on such a reasonably priced holiday. For example, you would not expect to find an all-inclusive rail journey on-board The Ghan, Indian Pacific or Rovos Rail. Nor would you expect to enjoy a wonderful overnight cruise on board Milford Mariner as it sails spectacular Milford Sound, or experience dinner like the maharajas in a 16th century Indian fort. 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.

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.

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 £463 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



Southern Sun Waterfront, Cape Town



HAND-PICKED HOTELS

perfectly located

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, and 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 have 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.

Character and charm

In many destinations, we select hotels for their history, character and charm. In Lucknow, India for instance, we stay at Lebuva - an Art Deco heritage hotel, which has been lovingly restored to recreate the lifestyle enjoyed in the early 1900s.

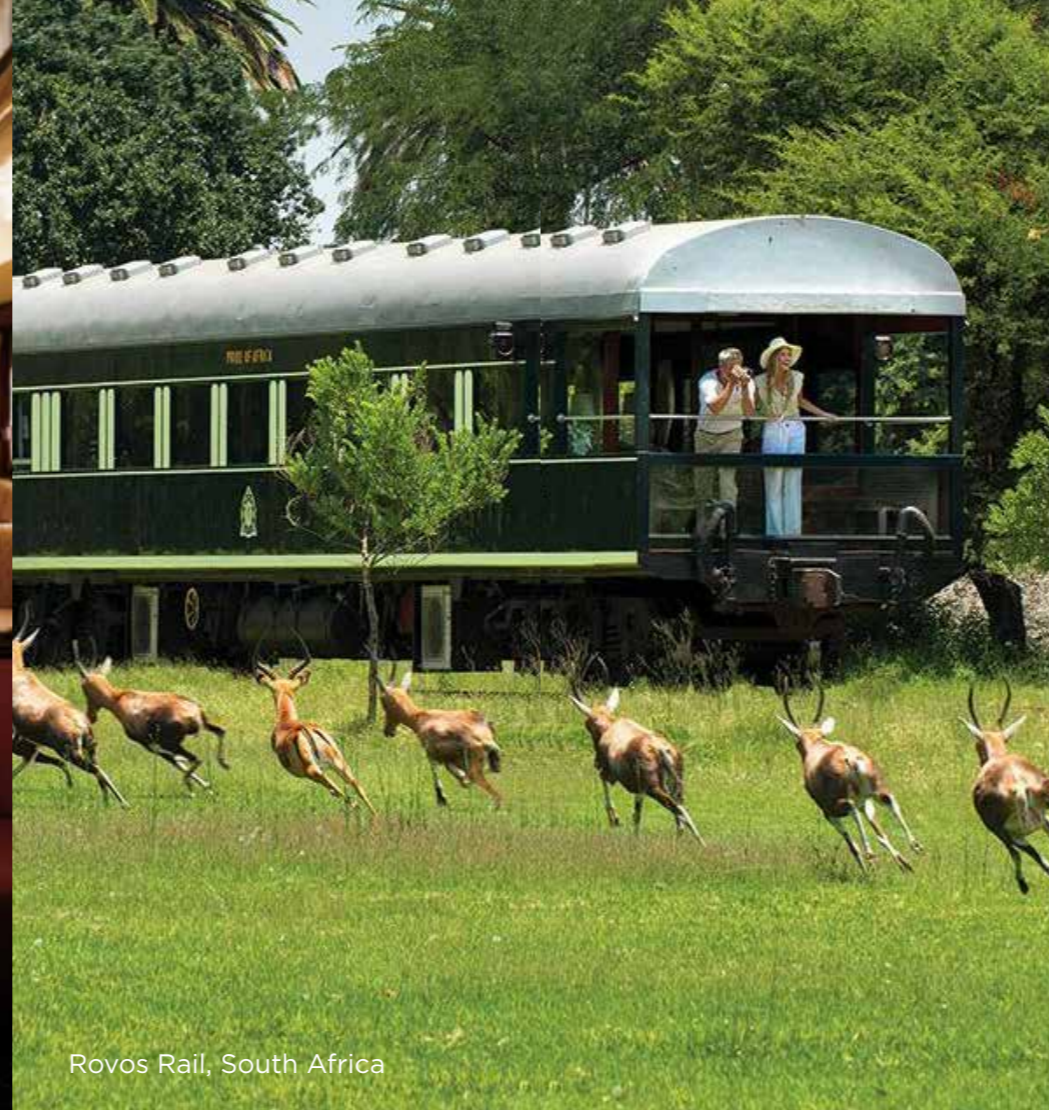
Excellent quality and exceptional value

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 120 - 127, 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.



The Ghan, Australia



Rovos Rail, South Africa



Milford Mariner, New Zealand

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

experiences that are truly unforgettable

Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India 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. While in New Zealand you may 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. And in Jaipur India, you will dine like the maharajas, in the magnificent setting of the 16th century Amber Fort.

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.

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.

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.



Wine tasting, New Zealand



Hot air balloon, Australia

FREEDOM AND FLEXIBILITY

styled just for you

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. On our Spectacular South Africa tour you have the option of London Heathrow, Manchester, Leeds Bradford, Newcastle, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen or Belfast. And when travelling to India, you may choose from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Birmingham, Manchester or Glasgow.

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 128 - 131.

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, sampling wines in South Africa's Western Cape, or learning to cook Indian cuisine in a family home, 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.

“ Great holiday, we had the freedom to do our own thing when it suited as well as a range of excursions when we needed them. The Ghan train and the Great Barrier Reef experiences were first class. ”

Mr & Mrs Parry, Cheshire

Sydney Harbour, Australia

WONDERS OF AUSTRALIA

22 days from only £4,995 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 city 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 £349pp
- ✓ Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- ✓ Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

All-inclusive on the Ghan

- ✓ Breakfast, lunch and dinner 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 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

WONDERS OF AUSTRALIA

Days 1 to 7: Singapore - Melbourne



Gardens by the Bay, 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. We continue to 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 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: 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.



Twelve Apostles, Great Ocean Road

WONDERS OF AUSTRALIA

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



St. Peter's Cathedral, Adelaide



Dining aboard The Ghan

Day 8: Adelaide, 2 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Adelaide. Surrounded by grassy parkland, picturesque hills and the Mount Lofty Range, Adelaide could scarcely present a more captivating aspect. 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. Later, we arrive at the excellent Stamford Plaza for our next two nights.

Breakfast and in-flight drinks 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.

Renowned as one of the world's most iconic train journeys, The Ghan was named after the Afghan camelers 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. Enjoy 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



Koala Gardens, Cairns



Sydney Harbour



Rainbow Lorikeet, Royal Botanical Gardens, Sydney

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, or the 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. To begin the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional aboriginal culture at the Tjapukai Cultural Centre, with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. We then take the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy, to the picturesque market town of Kuranda, '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 a scenic railway journey.

Breakfast included

We recommend: Kuranda Railway & Skyrail



A scenic journey to Kuranda 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, 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 cafés, 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 enroute 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



Dubai



Singapore



Bangkok



Hong Kong

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 a tour of New Zealand?



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

Please see pages 82-89 for more details.

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai – 5* Marriott al Jaddaf Two nights from only £295pp

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 £345pp

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* Amari Watergate Hotel Two nights from only £195pp

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 Hotel Two nights from only £245pp

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.

Bali – 4* Melia Bali Three nights from only £395pp

For a truly relaxing homeward stopover, a stay in this beachside resort with its large private pool and many on-site dining options, is a must.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

07 September 2018	£5,195 PER PERSON
05 October 2018	£5,295 PER PERSON
02 November 2018	£5,195 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

11 January 2019	£5,195 PER PERSON
25 January 2019	£5,195 PER PERSON
08 February 2019	£5,195 PER PERSON
08 March 2019	£5,195 PER PERSON
12 April 2019	£4,995 PER PERSON
07 June 2019	£4,995 PER PERSON
02 August 2019	£5,495 PER PERSON

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement is £1,195. 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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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, Bali 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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Uluru (Ayers Rock)

THE VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA

29 days from only £5,995 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 holiday. 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, 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 through 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 city sightseeing tour
- ✓ Alternatively, enjoy a two night pre-stay in Perth

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 £463pp
- ✓ Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- ✓ Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

All-inclusive on the Ghan

- ✓ Breakfast, lunch and dinner 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 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

THE VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA

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



Perth



Sea lions, Kangaroo Island



River Torrens, 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 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/Perth

We have based days 2 - 4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Alternatively you may choose to stop in Dubai or spend an extra two nights in Perth for the same price. The alternative stopovers include transfers to and from the hotel, daily breakfast, and if choosing Dubai a city sightseeing tour. Flight timings and departure airports vary with alternative stopovers - 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 arrival into Perth later tonight, clear customs and transfer to the Pan Pacific Hotel 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 wild flowers 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 choose to spend your day - enjoy!
Breakfast included

Day 7: Kangaroo Island, 2 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Adelaide, capital of South Australia. Upon arrival meet our waiting coach and continue to the Fleurieu Peninsula, where we board a ferry to Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island. We make our way to the Aurora Ozone Hotel, situated in a prime position on Kangaroo Island, where we spend two nights.
Breakfast and in-flight drinks 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: 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 eucalypti 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 9: Adelaide, 2 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. En route to Adelaide, we visit Australia's oldest surviving German settlement in the quaint village of Hahndorf, with its tree lined streets and original 'Fachwerk' buildings. Surrounded by grassy parkland, picturesque hills and the Mount Lofty Range, Adelaide could scarcely present a more captivating aspect. During this afternoon's sightseeing tour we will be introduced to Adelaide's streets, fine Victorian buildings and attractive parks and gardens that surround the city. Later, we arrive at the Stamford Plaza for our next two nights.
Breakfast included

Day 10: 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 11: Melbourne, 3 nights

This morning we make our way to the airport in plenty of time for our flight to Melbourne, 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 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. Home for the next three nights is 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 Freedom Day

This is our first Freedom Day in Melbourne, where 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

THE VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA

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

“ From the very first phone call we made they have delivered excellent service - friendly, reassuring, professional and nothing was too much for them to do. ”

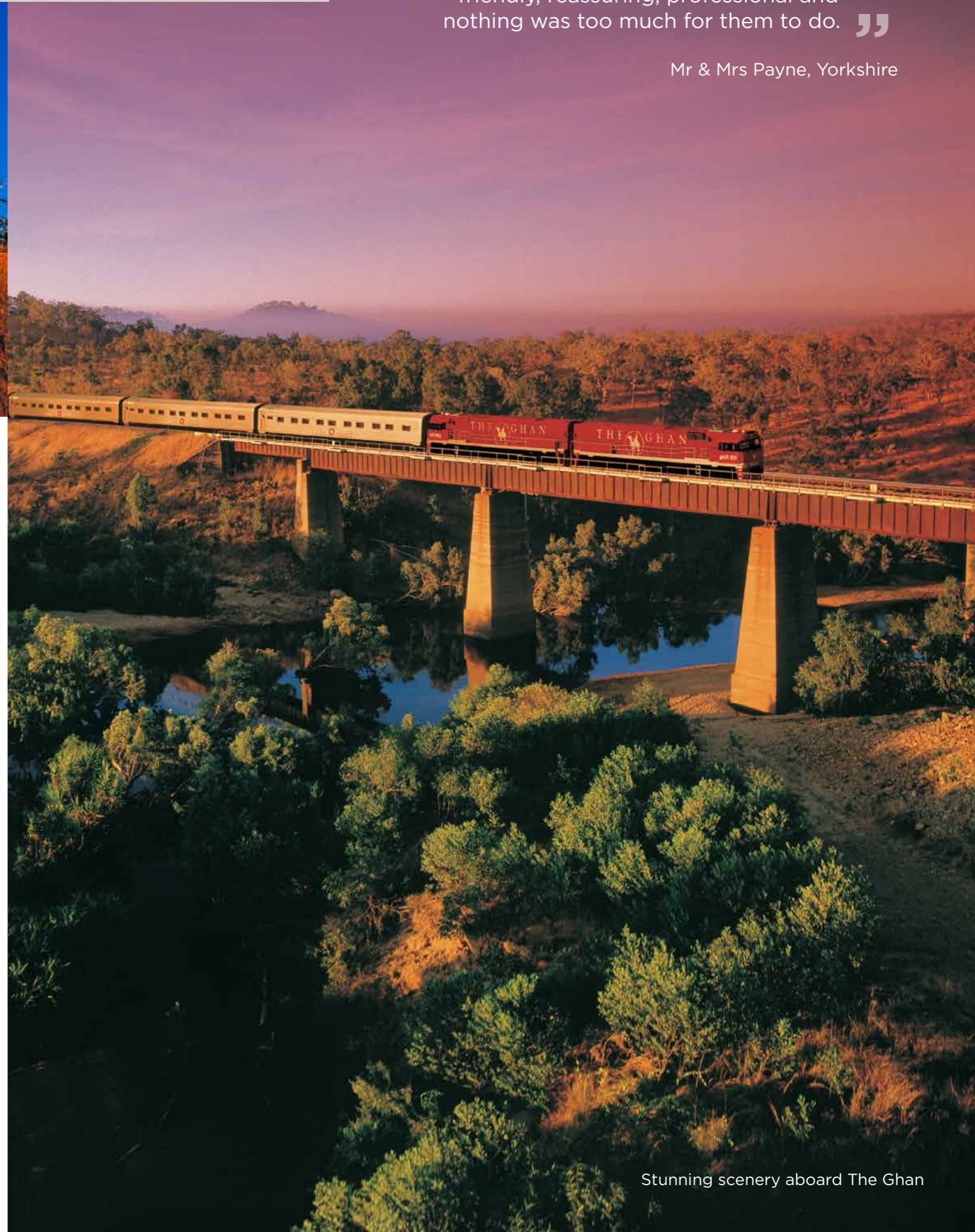
Mr & Mrs Payne, Yorkshire



Princes Bridge, Melbourne



Thorny Devil, Uluru (Ayers Rock)



Day 13: 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 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

Day 14: Uluru, Overnight

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight via Alice Springs 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. Enjoy a glass of sparkling wine with your travelling companions 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 as 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; 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 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 onboard drinks included

THE VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA

Days 18 to 21: Darwin - Cairns - Great Barrier Reef



Katherine Gorge



Dining, The Ghan

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 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

**We recommend:
Litchfield National Park**



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

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 DoubleTree by Hilton, which will be our home for the next four nights.

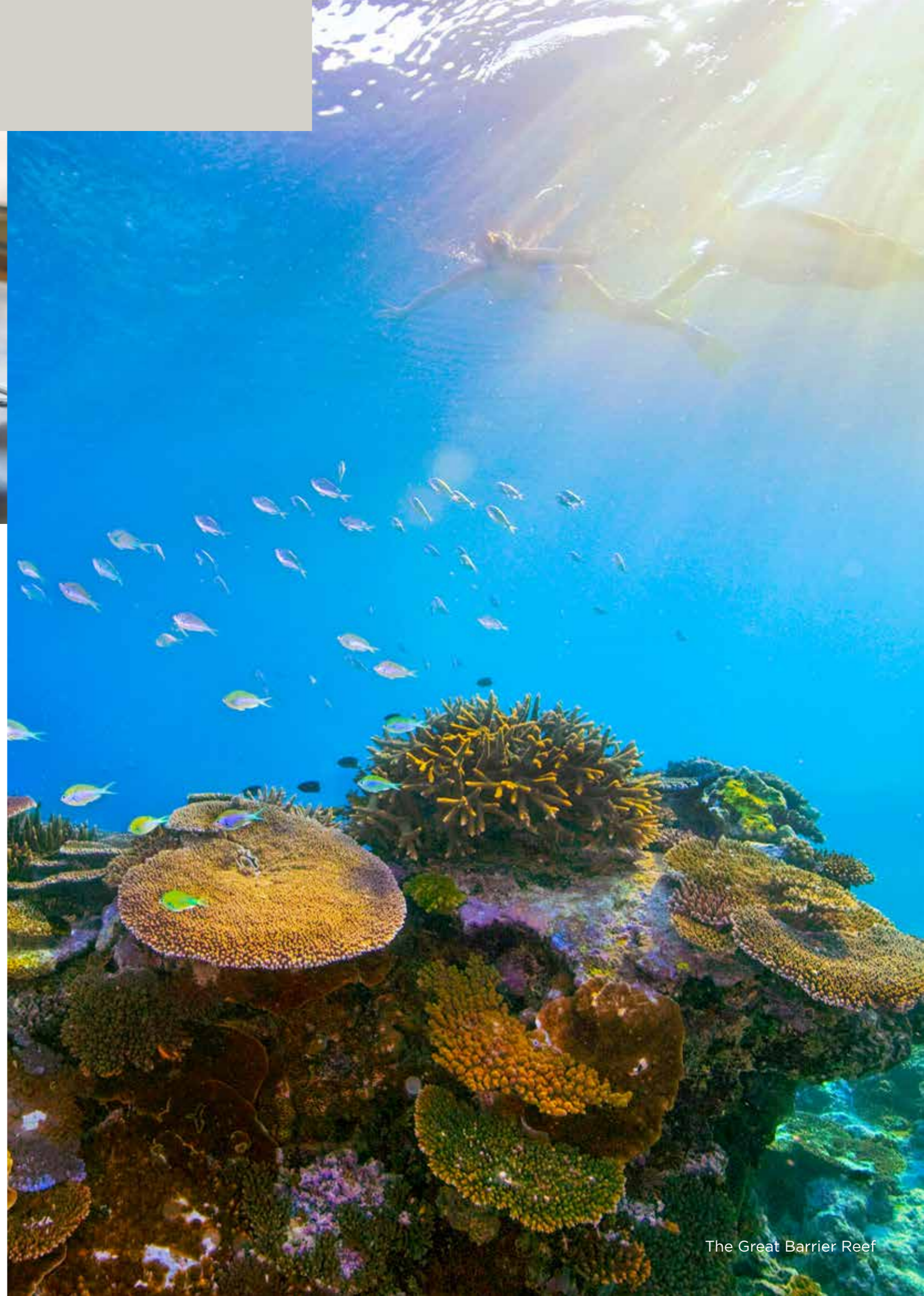
Breakfast included

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 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



THE VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA

Days 22 to 27: Cairns - Sydney



Kuranda Railway, Cairns



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. To begin the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional aboriginal culture at the Tjapukai Cultural Centre, with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. We then take the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy, to the picturesque market town of Kuranda, '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 a scenic railway journey.

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 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, 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 cafés, 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 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, visit fascinating Kuringai National Park, 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



Bondi Beach, Sydney

THE VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA

Days 28 to 29: Sydney - UK



Desert camel, Dubai



Little India, Singapore



Floating markets, Bangkok



Lanterns, Hong Kong

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 a tour of New Zealand?



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

Please see pages 82-89 for more details.

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf Two nights from only £295pp

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 £345pp

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* Amari Watergate Hotel Two nights from only £195pp

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 Hotel Two nights from only £245pp

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.

Bali - 4* Melia Bali Three nights from only £395pp

For a truly relaxing homeward stopover, a stay in this beachside resort with its large private pool and many on-site dining options, is a must.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

22 September 2018	£6,195 PER PERSON
27 October 2018	£6,195 PER PERSON
06 December 2018	£6,995 PER PERSON

*Including Christmas and New Year

2019 DEPARTURES

05 January 2019	£6,195 PER PERSON
19 January 2019	£6,195 PER PERSON
09 February 2019	£6,195 PER PERSON
02 March 2019	£6,195 PER PERSON
16 March 2019	£6,195 PER PERSON
13 April 2019	£5,995 PER PERSON
03 August 2019	£6,495 PER PERSON

Christmas & New Year tour

* The 6th December 2018 departure is a special tour taking in Australia over the Christmas and New Year period. The itinerary is slightly different from the one featured as it does not include The Ghan and includes five nights in Cairns. This departure includes Christmas Dinner with drinks in Cairns and a New Year's Eve celebration at the North Sydney Harbourview Hotel, including dinner, drinks, a live band and fantastic views of the Harbour Bridge fireworks. Please book early as spaces are limited.

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement is £1,795. Single supplement for Christmas and New Year is £2,495. 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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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, Bali 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 5th January 2019 departure will stay at the Four Points in Melbourne and the 16th March 2019 departure will stay at the Mercure Kangaroo Island.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Kangaroos, sunset

ICONS OF AUSTRALIA

21 days from only £4,995 per person

We know from listening to our guests' valued comments that some would prefer a touring holiday with fewer people than our usual groups. So for this season, Distant Journeys is pleased to introduce our new Icons of Australia tour, taking you to the most iconic places of this vast country in a group of no more than 24 like-minded travellers.

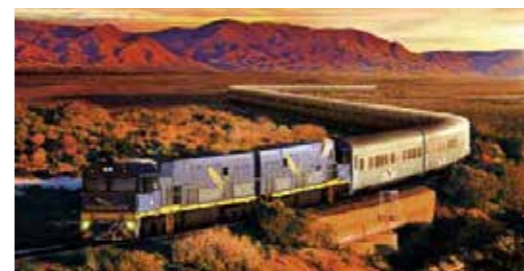
As well as a smaller party, this wonderful tour also offers increased flexibility with two different itinerary options; either enjoy three nights in the gorgeous resort of Noosa on Queensland's Sunshine Coast with a full day tour of Fraser Island, or alternatively spend two nights in Adelaide then travel in style to Sydney aboard the world-renowned Indian Pacific train.

Small yet perfectly formed, welcome to the Icons of Australia.



③ = Number of nights

TOUR HIGHLIGHT Indian Pacific



Guests choosing to visit Adelaide, will enjoy a fabulous overnight journey to Sydney on-board the world-renowned Indian Pacific, with all meals and selected drinks included.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Small Group Touring

- ✓ Maximum 24 passengers per departure

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 city sightseeing tour
- ✓ Alternatively, enjoy a two night pre-stay in Perth

Carefully selected hotels

- ✓ Superior hotels in great locations, as detailed in the itinerary
- ✓ All-inclusive overnight journey on the Indian Pacific (if selected)

Many meals included

- ✓ Daily breakfast included, worth £345pp
- ✓ Barbecue lunch at Standley Chasm
- ✓ Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- ✓ Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

Unforgettable experiences included

- ✓ Sightseeing tours in Singapore, Perth, Alice Springs and Sydney
- ✓ Uluru (Ayers Rock) at sunset and sunrise
- ✓ Full day on the Great Barrier Reef
- ✓ Full day tour to Fraser Island (if selected)
- ✓ Luncheon cruise around Sydney Harbour

We include even more...

- ✓ Services of an experienced local Tour Manager
- ✓ All hotel portorage
- ✓ Modern air-conditioned coaches
- ✓ All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- ✓ UK Air Passenger Duty
- ✓ ATOL protection for your holiday

ICONS OF AUSTRALIA

Days 1 to 7: Singapore - Perth - Alice Springs



Asian flavours in Singapore



Elizabeth Quay, Perth

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 Points by Sheraton, situated in an enviable position close to the banks of the Singapore River.

In-flight meals and drinks included

Alternative Stopover - Dubai/Perth

We have based days 2 - 4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Alternatively you may choose to stop in Dubai or spend an extra two nights in Perth for the same price. The alternative stopovers include transfers to and from the hotel, daily breakfast, and if choosing Dubai a city sightseeing tour. Flight timings and departure airports vary with alternative stopovers - 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 take a cruise around Singapore's harbour, visit nearby Sentosa Island or enjoy high tea at Raffles. Upon our arrival into Perth later this evening, clear customs and transfer to the Pan Pacific, 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. This morning we have arranged a tour to explore its beauty further. Visit King's Park, with its captivating wild flowers and bushland affording incredible views over the city. Also visit the nearby port of Fremantle and its historic buildings and fascinating Maritime Museum. We return to Perth with a cruise along the beautiful Swan River, passing many impressive waterside homes.

Breakfast included

Day 6: Perth Freedom Day

Your first Australian Freedom Day allows you to spend the day as you please. Perhaps take a stroll around nearby Elizabeth Quay and visit the Swan Bell Tower to learn about its fascinating connection to St. Martin-in-the-Fields church in Trafalgar Square. Alternatively you may prefer to take an excursion to the Nambung National Park to visit the

fascinating limestone formations known as the Pinnacles. However you spend your day - enjoy!

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 7: Alice Springs, 2 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Alice Springs, in Australia's Red Centre. Nestled between the MacDonnell Ranges, this iconic town is the geographical centre of Australia, made famous by its rich pioneering history and ancient indigenous culture. Upon arrival, we shall transfer to the four star DoubleTree by Hilton.

Breakfast included



Cottesloe Beach, Perth

ICONS OF AUSTRALIA

Days 8 to 11: Alice Springs - Uluru - Palm Cove



The Great Barrier Reef



Palm Cove



Uluru

Day 8: Alice Springs

This morning you may wish to take an adventure in slow motion on an optional hot air balloon trip over the outback landscapes. Then, after breakfast, board our coach and enjoy a sightseeing tour of this 'Town Called Alice'. 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. Continue to the nearby Western MacDonnell Ranges and explore the towering granite walls of Standley Chasm, where we enjoy a barbecue lunch. Later, return to the hotel and the rest of your day is at leisure to spend as you please.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 9: **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. This afternoon we visit the impressive series of rounded sandstone domes known as the Olgas. Later in the day we return to Uluru where we will 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

Day 10: Palm Cove, 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 ever changing colours and character of the rock. After breakfast, we take a drive around the monolith and stop at the only permanent waterhole. We walk close enough to touch this icon of Australia and wonder at its textured surface and deep red colour. This afternoon we depart in time for our flight to Cairns. Upon arrival, we shall transfer to the delightful resort of Palm Cove and the superbly located Peppers Beach Club & Spa, situated in a wonderful location, overlooking the palm fringed beach and Pacific Ocean.

Breakfast included

We recommend: Kuranda Railway & Skyrail



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

Day 11: **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 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

ICONS OF AUSTRALIA

Days 12 to 17: Palm Cove - Noosa - Sydney



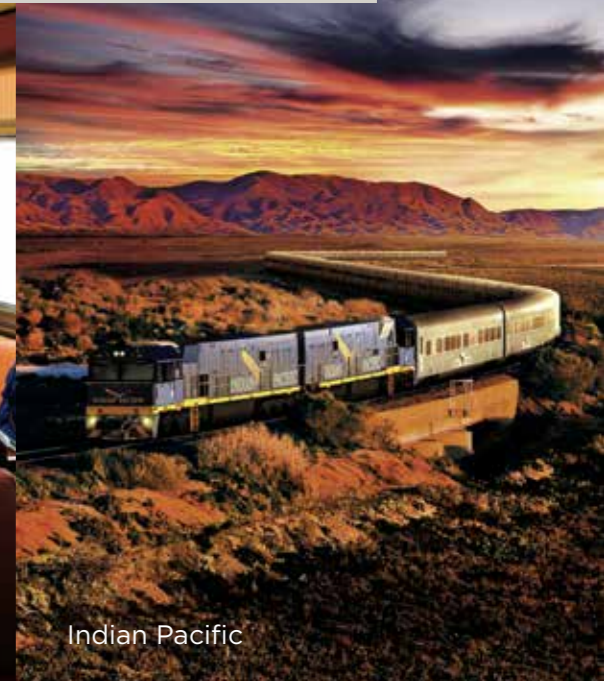
Sunshine Coast sunset



Lake McKenzie, Fraser Island



Outback Explorer lounge



Indian Pacific

Day 12: Palm Cove Freedom Day

Although today has been left free, you may wish to take an optional trip to Kuranda. To begin the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional aboriginal culture at the Tjapukai Cultural Centre, with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. We then take the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy, to the picturesque market town of Kuranda, '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 train, travelling along the scenic Kuranda railway, encountering no less than 40 bridges and 15 tunnels. **Breakfast included**

Day 13: Palm Cove Freedom Day

Another free day to enjoy and relax in tropical northern Queensland. Spend the day by the beach or hire a canoe to paddle in the sparkling coral sea. If you prefer to venture further afield, 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 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 14: Noosa

This morning we return to Cairns in time for our flight to Brisbane. Upon arrival our waiting coach will take us along the Bruce Highway to the spectacular resort of Noosa on Queensland's Sunshine Coast. We make our way to the fabulous Peppers

Noosa Resort, ideally situated within the serenity of the Noosa National Park, but with easy access to the town's wonderful beaches and impressive selection of shops and restaurants. Accommodation for the next three nights is in elegantly appointed one-bedroomed apartments. **Breakfast included**

Day 15: TOUR HIGHLIGHT Fraser Island



Following an early breakfast we embark on a journey to explore the world's largest sand island. Fraser Island is part of the Great Sandy National Park and became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1992. Fraser Island is composed almost entirely of vegetation covered sand, with over 40 freshwater lakes and dense rainforest. As we traverse the island in our purpose-built vehicles, we will make numerous stops. We drive along Seventy-Five Mile Beach, visit Lake McKenzie and enjoy a photo stop at the Maheno Shipwreck. During your day keep your eyes open for wildlife including numerous bird species, dingos and various reptiles. We return to the hotel later in the afternoon where our evening is at leisure. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 16: Noosa

A day completely free to spend as you please. Relax on the pristine beach, or by the hotel's pool. Perhaps spoil yourself with a treatment in the hotel's spa? For those wishing to explore further, the Noosa River and Everglades tour is a great way to spend a few hours discovering these tranquil, mirrored waters. **Breakfast included**

Day 17: Sydney, 3 nights

This morning we make our way back to Brisbane Airport in time for our flight to Sydney. Upon arrival we head to the North Sydney Harbourview Hotel, superbly located on Sydney's north shore overlooking Sydney 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 cafés, 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 included**

ADELAIDE & THE INDIAN PACIFIC

Days 14 to 17: Adelaide - Indian Pacific - Sydney



As an alternative to visiting Noosa, on selected departure dates, you have the option to enjoy two nights in Adelaide and a journey from Adelaide to Sydney aboard The Indian Pacific, undoubtedly one of the world's great train journeys. Experience the splendour of The Indian Pacific for the final leg of its great traverse from Perth to Sydney.

If choosing Adelaide and Indian Pacific, days 14-17 of your itinerary will be as follows:

Day 14: Adelaide, 2 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we board our flight to Adelaide. Surrounded by grassy parkland, picturesque hills and the Mount Lofty Range, Adelaide could scarcely present a more captivating aspect. Upon arrival, enjoy a sightseeing tour and be introduced to Adelaide's streets, fine Victorian buildings and attractive parks and gardens that surround the city. Later in the day, arrive at the Mayfair Hotel for your next two nights. **Breakfast included**

Day 15: 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 16: TOUR HIGHLIGHT The Indian Pacific, overnight



This morning we make our way to Parklands Adelaide Rail Terminal in time for a magnificent overland rail journey to Australia's harbour city, Sydney. Named after the two great oceans it joins, and symbolised by the magnificent wedge-tailed eagle that so often soars above it, the mighty Indian Pacific traverses 4,352km (2,698 miles) between Perth and Sydney. Undeniably, one of the world's great train journeys, we join The Indian Pacific for the final leg of its great traverse. As we depart Adelaide, relax in the Outback Explorer lounge car with your new found friends viewing the passing scenery. Enjoy lunch in the Queen Adelaide Restaurant as we make our way to Broken Hill, with its countless tales of riches won and lost. Enjoy an included tour of this former mining town; known as Silver City and sitting amidst distinctive desert landscapes and an oasis of lakes. Later, we continue through some of Australia's most productive farming

country and into the arid outback as the sun sets. Following dinner this evening, sleep to the rhythm of the rails.

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 bathrooms 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. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected onboard drinks included**

Day 17: Sydney, 3 nights

This morning wake to witness the sandstone cliffs, forested valleys, escarpments and waterfalls of the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains. We disembark for a half day tour, viewing this 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. Later, we board a local train to complete our journey to Sydney. In just 25 hours we will have covered 1,693 kilometres of one of the most memorable rail journeys on the planet. Upon arrival into Sydney, our waiting coach will transfer us to the North Sydney Harbourview Hotel, superbly located on Sydney's north shore overlooking Sydney Harbour. **Breakfast included**

ICONS OF AUSTRALIA

Days 18 to 19: Sydney



Sydney Harbour



Day 18: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Sydney - sightseeing and luncheon cruise



This morning's sightseeing tour begins with a drive through 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. Journey via Hyde Park Barracks, The Mint and Parliament House to Mrs Macquaire's Chair in the Royal Botanical Gardens, where we stop for the classic photo opportunity of the Opera House and the 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 water's edge are truly amazing. The afternoon has been left free to spend as we please.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 19: Sydney Freedom Day

A Sydney Freedom Day to spend as you please. Perhaps take a behind-the-scenes tour of Sydney Opera House, climb the Harbour Bridge or explore wonderful views and Aboriginal art of Kuringai National Park. Alternatively, for guests who stayed in Noosa, there is an opportunity to visit the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains. As well as visiting all the spectacular landscapes, the excursion 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.

ICONS OF AUSTRALIA

Days 20 to 21: Sydney - UK



Burj Al Arab, Dubai



Singapore Botanical Gardens



Tuk Tuk, Bangkok



Tram at the Peak, Hong Kong

Day 20: Depart Sydney

The day is your own until it's time to depart for the airport in the early afternoon. Our flights to your chosen UK airport operate via Dubai where there will be a change of aircraft.

Breakfast, and in-flight meals and drinks included

Day 21: 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

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf Two nights from only £295pp

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 £345pp

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* Amari Watergate Hotel Two nights from only £195pp

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* Four Points by Sheraton Two nights from only £245pp

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.

Bali - 4* Melia Bali Three nights from only £395pp

For a truly relaxing homeward stopover, a stay in this beachside resort with its large private pool and many on-site dining options, is a must.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES with Noosa

01 October 2018	£5,595 PER PERSON
05 November 2018	£5,495 PER PERSON

2018 DEPARTURES with Adelaide and the Indian Pacific

16 April 2018	£4,995 PER PERSON
08 October 2018	£5,795 PER PERSON
29 October 2018	£5,695 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES with Noosa

14 January 2019	£5,495 PER PERSON
28 January 2019	£5,495 PER PERSON
11 March 2019	£5,495 PER PERSON
06 May 2019	£4,995 PER PERSON
29 July 2019	£5,795 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES with Adelaide and the Indian Pacific

07 January 2019	£5,695 PER PERSON
11 February 2019	£5,695 PER PERSON
04 March 2019	£5,695 PER PERSON
29 April 2019	£5,195 PER PERSON
05 August 2019	£5,995 PER PERSON

Small group touring

A maximum of 24 passengers per departure.

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £1,295.
When travelling overnight on The Indian Pacific (if selected), 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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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 are available on all dates. Your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bali 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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Milford Sound, New Zealand

MAGNIFICENT NEW ZEALAND

23 days from only £3,995 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. 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 breathtaking scenery, vibrant cities and rich Maori culture - and experience an unforgettable overnight cruise aboard Milford Mariner, on spectacular 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 city 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 £313pp
- ✓ Maori Hangi dinner in Rotorua

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

MAGNIFICENT NEW ZEALAND

Days 1 to 7: Singapore - Auckland - Bay of Islands



Mt. Eden, Auckland



Bay of Islands

“ 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



Sky Tower, Auckland

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 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 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. See 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 Australia, and on arrival into Auckland we board our waiting coach and transfer to the centrally located Scenic Hotel Auckland, 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 breathtaking.

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

MAGNIFICENT NEW ZEALAND

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



TranzAlpine Express



Rotorua



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 Paki 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**

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 Distinction Hotel, Christchurch. **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 lanthe 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



Queenstown



Walking Franz Josef Glacier



Milford Mariner

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

We recommend: Scenic flight over Franz Josef Glacier



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

Day 16: Queenstown

Queenstown smiles south across Lake Wakatipu into an incomparable alpine scene. Poplars and willows surround the lake front 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

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. 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. Later in the day we arrive at the Distinction Hotel in Christchurch for our final night in New Zealand.

Breakfast included

MAGNIFICENT NEW ZEALAND

Days 22 to 23: Christchurch - UK



Street food, Singapore



Wadi Rum desert, Dubai



Bali, Indonesia



Wat Phra Kaew, Bangkok

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 UK airport operate via Australia 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

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali, Sydney 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 128 - 131.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf

Two nights from only £295PP

Hong Kong - 4* Regal Kowloon

Two nights from only £345PP

Bangkok - 4* Amari Watergate Hotel

Two nights from only £195PP

Singapore - 4* Copthorne Kings Hotel

Two nights from only £245PP

Bali - 4* Melia Bali

Three nights from only £395PP

Sydney - 4* North Sydney Harbourview

Three nights from only £495PP



Why not combine with a tour of Australia?



If you wish to make the ultimate journey to Australasia, combining the Magnificent New Zealand tour with one of our Australia tours makes perfect sense.

Please see pages 82-89 for more details.

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

06 October 2018	£4,695 PER PERSON
10 November 2018	£4,795 PER PERSON
17 December 2018*	£5,295 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

05 January 2019	£4,995 PER PERSON
26 January 2019	£4,995 PER PERSON
09 February 2019	£4,995 PER PERSON
04 March 2019	£4,795 PER PERSON
27 April 2019	£3,995 PER PERSON

Christmas & New Year tour

* The 17th December 2018 departure takes in New Zealand over the Christmas and New Year period. The itinerary includes Christmas Dinner with drinks in the Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands. Please book early as spaces are limited.

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £1,495.
Single supplement for 27 April 2019 departure £1,195.

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.

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, Bali, Sydney or Dubai.

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 27th April 2019 departure will stay at 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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Lake Wanaka, New Zealand

THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND

28 days from only £5,195 per person

New Zealand is known for so much - its stunning and other-worldly landscapes, its Maori culture and laid-back lifestyle, its unique flora and fauna; the list is endless. For that reason, if you're going to travel to the other side of the world, you need to allow plenty of time to appreciate everything that New Zealand has to offer.

Distant Journeys' Very Best of New Zealand tour takes in all the sights that would top anyone's wish list with the addition of some less well known gems that many itineraries just wouldn't have time to visit. For instance, we discover the Art Deco city of Napier; arty, bohemian Nelson and Wellington, the nation's capital.

The tour is leisurely paced with plenty of free time to explore as you please, and truly does provide you with the Very Best of New Zealand.



TOUR HIGHLIGHT Milford Sound overnight cruise



An unforgettable overnight cruise on breath-taking Milford Sound is included in your holiday with Distant Journeys.

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 city 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 £397pp
- ✓ Maori Hangi dinner in Rotorua

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, Wellington, Queenstown, Dunedin and Christchurch
- ✓ 'Hole in the Rock' cruise in the Bay of Islands
- ✓ Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve
- ✓ Maori concert
- ✓ Maori village visit at Wairakei Terraces

We include even more

- ✓ Services of an experienced local Coach Captain
- ✓ 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

THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND

Days 1 to 11: Singapore - Auckland - Bay of Islands - Rotorua



Auckland Harbour



Waitakere, Auckland



Bay of Islands

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 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 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. See 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 Australia, and on arrival into Auckland we board our waiting coach and transfer to the Scenic Hotel Auckland, 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

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 Paki sand dunes and a drive along Ninety Mile Beach.

Breakfast included

We recommend: Cape Reinga



Take a tour to Cape Reinga, at the top of North Island, where the Pacific and Tasman meet, followed by a drive along Ninety Mile Beach.

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 spurring 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.

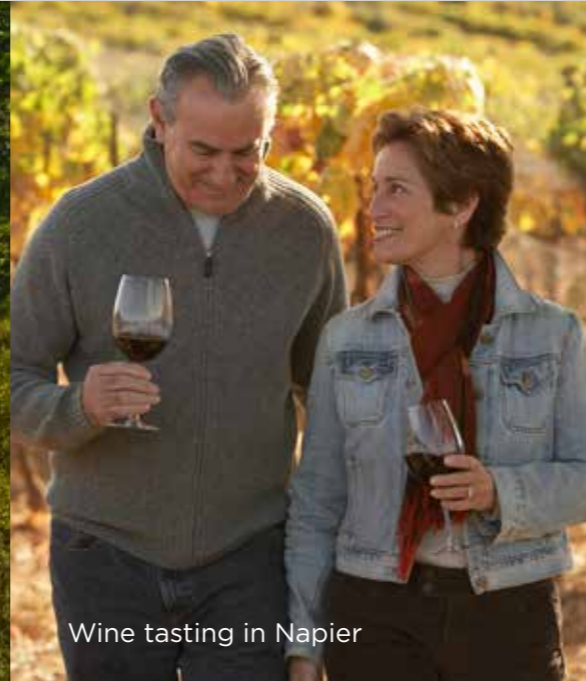
Breakfast and dinner included

THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND

Days 12 to 17: Napier - Wellington - Nelson



Huka Falls



Wine tasting in Napier



Day 12: Napier, 2 nights

After a leisurely start to our day we make our way along the Thermal Explorer Highway to Lake Taupo, New Zealand's largest lake. Visit the impressive Huka Falls where the Waikato River suddenly narrows to a chasm less than 15 metres across and heaves its vast bulk over an 11 metre ledge to boil furiously in a deep semi-circular basin below. We continue to Wairakei Terraces, where we visit a Maori village. Our Maori guides walk with us through the geothermal and Maori cultural walkway, recounting stories of their history and guiding you around the varied art forms found in the village.

Our final destination is the Art Deco city of Napier, located in an area dominated by orchards and vineyards. Our next two evenings are spent at the delightful Scenic Hotel Te Pania, superbly situated on Napier's sea front.

Breakfast included

Day 13: Napier Freedom Day

Today is yours to spend as you please. Napier's city centre has the feeling of a time capsule - the seamless line of 1930's architecture is quite extraordinary. One of the ways to enjoy the streetscape is on a self-guided tour. Alternatively visit one or more of the local wineries on a tour to some of New Zealand's finest vineyards - Pinot Gris and Syrah are the region's signature wines.

Breakfast included

Day 14: Wellington, 2 nights

This morning our journey continues south via Hastings and the Kapiti Coast as we make our way to Wellington, New Zealand's capital. Upon arrival we shall make our way to Wellington's Copthorne Hotel Oriental Bay, where our evening is at leisure.

Breakfast included

Day 15: Wellington

Wellington is compact, cultured and full of character. Its interesting and varied architecture provides the ideal starting point for our orientation tour this morning. We visit Wellington's administrative area, taking in Parliament House, 'the Beehive' (you'll understand the name when you see it) and the government buildings. We then continue to the top of Mount Victoria for the finest view of the city and its picturesque harbour.

Your afternoon is at leisure - a visit to Te Papa museum is highly recommended, as it offers a fascinating insight into New Zealand's rich history and cultural heritage. Alternatively, ride a cable car to Wellington's beautiful botanical gardens.

Breakfast included

Day 16: Nelson, 2 nights

This morning we leave North Island in our wake as we board the ferry for our inter-island cruise to New Zealand's South Island. During the cruise, enjoy spectacular views as we approach Queen Charlotte Sound. With the possibility of birds and dolphins following, we make our way across the Cook Strait to Picton. Upon arrival we re-join our coach and make our way to Nelson where the remainder of our day is at leisure. Our next two nights are spent at the Nelson Rutherford Hotel.

Breakfast included

Day 17: Nelson Freedom Day

Nelson is a delight for explorers on foot. Scattered throughout the city are art galleries and workshops, historic buildings and street cafés. Today has been left as a Freedom Day so you can spend it any way you choose. Perhaps consider a trip to Abel Tasman National Park, New Zealand's smallest national park, blessed with golden beaches, sculptured granite cliffs, and its world-famous coast track. A cruise along the coast will take you to the very best scenery this region has to offer.

Alternatively, you may wish to take a tour of some of the region's wonderful wineries.

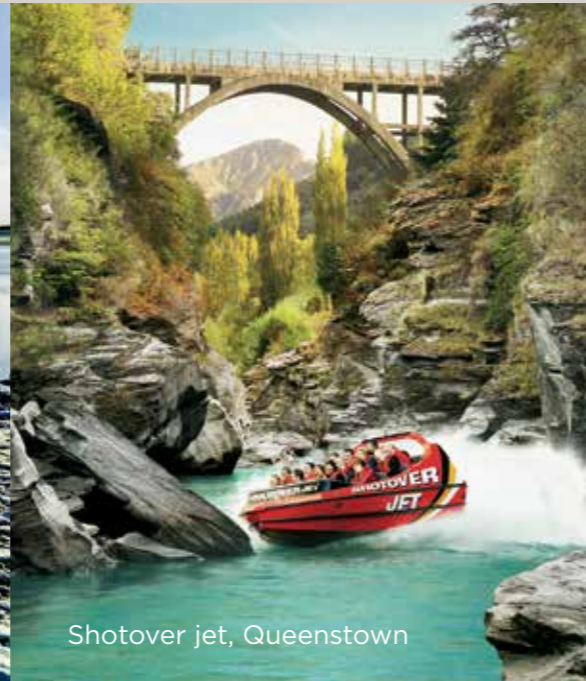
Breakfast included

THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND

Days 18 to 21: Franz Josef - Queenstown



Haast River Bridge



Shotover jet, Queenstown



Day 18: Franz Josef, 2 nights

Journey south this morning along the Heritage Highway to the rugged west coast. Visit Punakaiki (Pancake Rocks), an incredible maze of limestone rocks with booming blow-holes stacked high above the sea. Our travels continue southbound taking us via Hokitika and Hari Hari travelling 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

We recommend: Scenic flight over Franz Josef Glacier



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

Day 19: 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 20: 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 21: Queenstown

Queenstown smiles south across Lake Wakatipu into an incomparable alpine scene. Poplars and willows surround the lake front 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 the wine wine lovers amongst us, you may wish to follow Queenstown's wine trail - an enjoyable afternoon of wine tasting and sightseeing.

Breakfast included

We recommend: Queenstown TSS Earnslaw



Enjoy a cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw, including a visit and sheep shearing show at Walter Peak homestead.

THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND

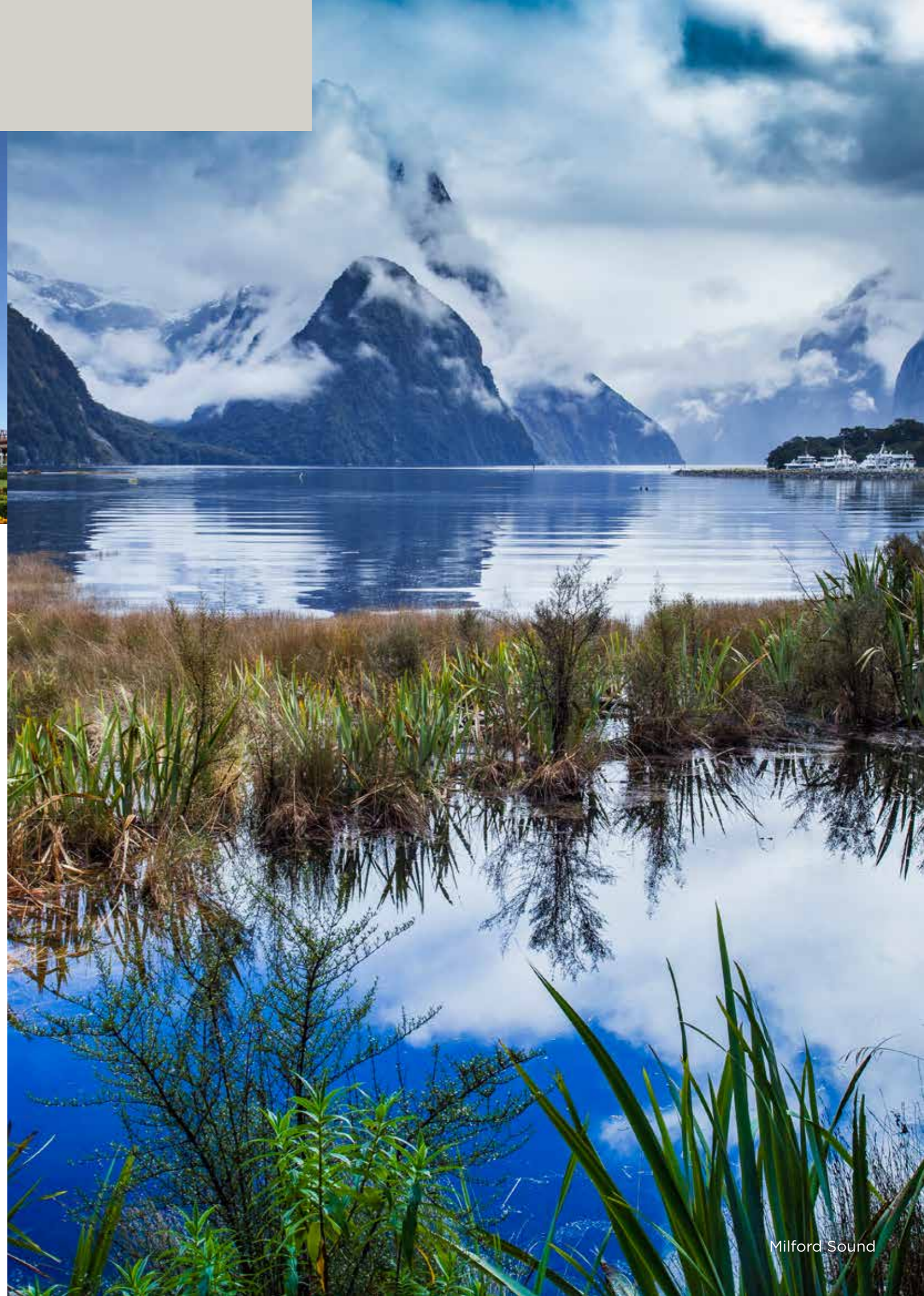
Days 22 to 26: Queenstown - Milford Sound - Dunedin - Christchurch



TSS Earnslaw, Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown



Clock tower, Dunedin



Day 22: 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 fabulous view across the lake to the Remarkables, why not take a gondola ride to the top of Bob's Peak? 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 23: 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

Day 24: 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 25: Dunedin

Enjoy a city sightseeing tour this morning travelling past Otago University, New Zealand's first. 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 26: 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. Later in the day we arrive at the Heartland Hotel Cotswold in Christchurch for our final night in New Zealand.
Breakfast included

THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND

Days 27 to 28: Christchurch - UK



Spice souk, Dubai



Jurong Bird Park, Singapore



Train night market, Bangkok



Wong Tai Sin Temple, Hong Kong

Day 27: Depart Christchurch

All good things must come to an end, and this morning we transfer to Christchurch Airport. Our flights to your chosen UK airport operate via Australia and Dubai.

Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included

Day 28: 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 Very Best of New Zealand tour makes perfect sense.

Please see pages 82-89 for more details.

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Sydney, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf

Two nights from only £295PP

Hong Kong - 4* Regal Kowloon

Two nights from only £345PP

Bangkok - 4* Amari Watergate Hotel

Two nights from only £195PP

Singapore - 4* Copthorne Kings Hotel

Two nights from only £245PP

Bali - 4* Melia Bali

Three nights from only £395PP

Sydney - 4* North Sydney Harbourview

Three nights from only £495PP



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

09 October 2018*	£5,195 PER PERSON
31 October 2018	£5,395 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

04 January 2019*	£5,495 PER PERSON
25 January 2019	£5,495 PER PERSON
20 February 2019*	£5,395 PER PERSON

*These departure dates are in reverse, beginning in Christchurch and finishing in Auckland. All hotels and experiences are the same as featured in this brochure.

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £1,895.

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.

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, Bali, Sydney or Dubai.

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 9th October 2018 and 20th February 2019 departures stay at the Copthorne Hotel in Queenstown. The 31st October 2018 and 25th January 2019 departures will stay at the Grand Millennium Hotel in Auckland and the Copthorne Waitangi in the Bay of Islands.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Sydney Harbour sunset

HIGHLIGHTS OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

28 days from only £5,295 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. Savour tropical Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef. Next, the haunting splendour of the outback - Alice Springs and Uluru are never to be forgotten. 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.



③ = Number of nights

TOUR HIGHLIGHT The 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 and 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 city sightseeing tour

Carefully selected hotels

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

Many meals included

- ✓ Daily breakfast included, worth £434pp
- ✓ 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

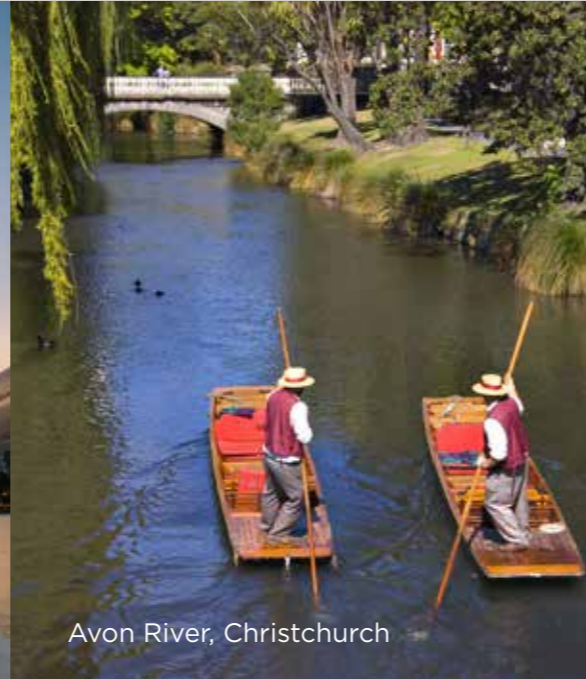
- ✓ Services of experienced local Coach Captains and Tour Manager
- ✓ All hotel portorage
- ✓ All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- ✓ All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- ✓ UK Air Passenger Duty
- ✓ No surcharge guarantee
- ✓ ATOL protection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

HIGHLIGHTS OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

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



Singapore



Avon River, Christchurch



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. See 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 Australia and continue our journey to Christchurch, New Zealand. Christchurch is a charming city renowned for its many gardens and parks. Overnight at the delightful Heartland Hotel Cotswold.

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.

HIGHLIGHTS OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Days 9 to 20: Milford Sound - Queenstown - Rotorua - Auckland - Melbourne - Cairns



Milford Sound, New Zealand



Twelve Apostles, Australia



Great Barrier Reef

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



Our sightseeing this morning takes us to Te Puia, home to the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve with its spurting geysers and boiling mudpools. After time exploring Te Puia, we continue our orientation tour via Rotorua's famous Bath House, a Tudor-style building situated within the Government Gardens. 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, overnight

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 night in New Zealand is spent at the centrally located Scenic Hotel, Auckland.
Breakfast included

Day 14: Melbourne, 3 nights

Enjoy a day at leisure in New Zealand's largest city. Auckland boasts a beautiful waterside setting and an America's Cup excursion (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 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 breathtaking. We take an early evening flight to Melbourne. Once your luggage has been collected, you'll meet your local Australian Tour Manager and transfer to the four star Rendezvous Hotel, where we spend three nights.
Breakfast included

Day 15: Melbourne

We take our 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. In the afternoon, why not 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 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.
Breakfast 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.

Day 17: Cairns, 4 nights

This morning we return to the airport in time for our flight to Cairns where the afternoon is free to become acquainted with tropical Queensland. 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

Day 18: **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 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 19: Cairns Freedom Day

Although today has been left free you may wish to take an optional trip to Kuranda. To begin the day, guests are able to immerse themselves in traditional aboriginal culture at the Tjapukai Cultural Centre, with authentic music, dance and storytelling by the Tjapukai people. We then take the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy, to the picturesque market town of Kuranda, '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 a scenic railway journey.
Breakfast included

Day 20: 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

HIGHLIGHTS OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Days 21 to 25: Alice Springs - Uluru - Sydney



Daintree Rainforest



Aboriginal music, Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Day 21: Alice Springs, 2 nights

This morning we make our way back to Cairns Airport in time for our flight to Alice Springs in the Northern Territory and Australia's Red Centre. Upon arrival 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 is 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. Later in the afternoon we arrive at the four star DoubleTree by Hilton. **Breakfast and in-flight drinks included**

Day 22: 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 23: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Uluru, (Ayers Rock), Overnight



Leaving Alice, we head west through amazing outback landscapes as we journey along the scenic Lasseter and Stuart Highways as we make our way to Uluru. 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 take a gentle stroll around certain areas of the rock to learn more about its historical and cultural importance. Later, 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 24: Sydney, 3 nights

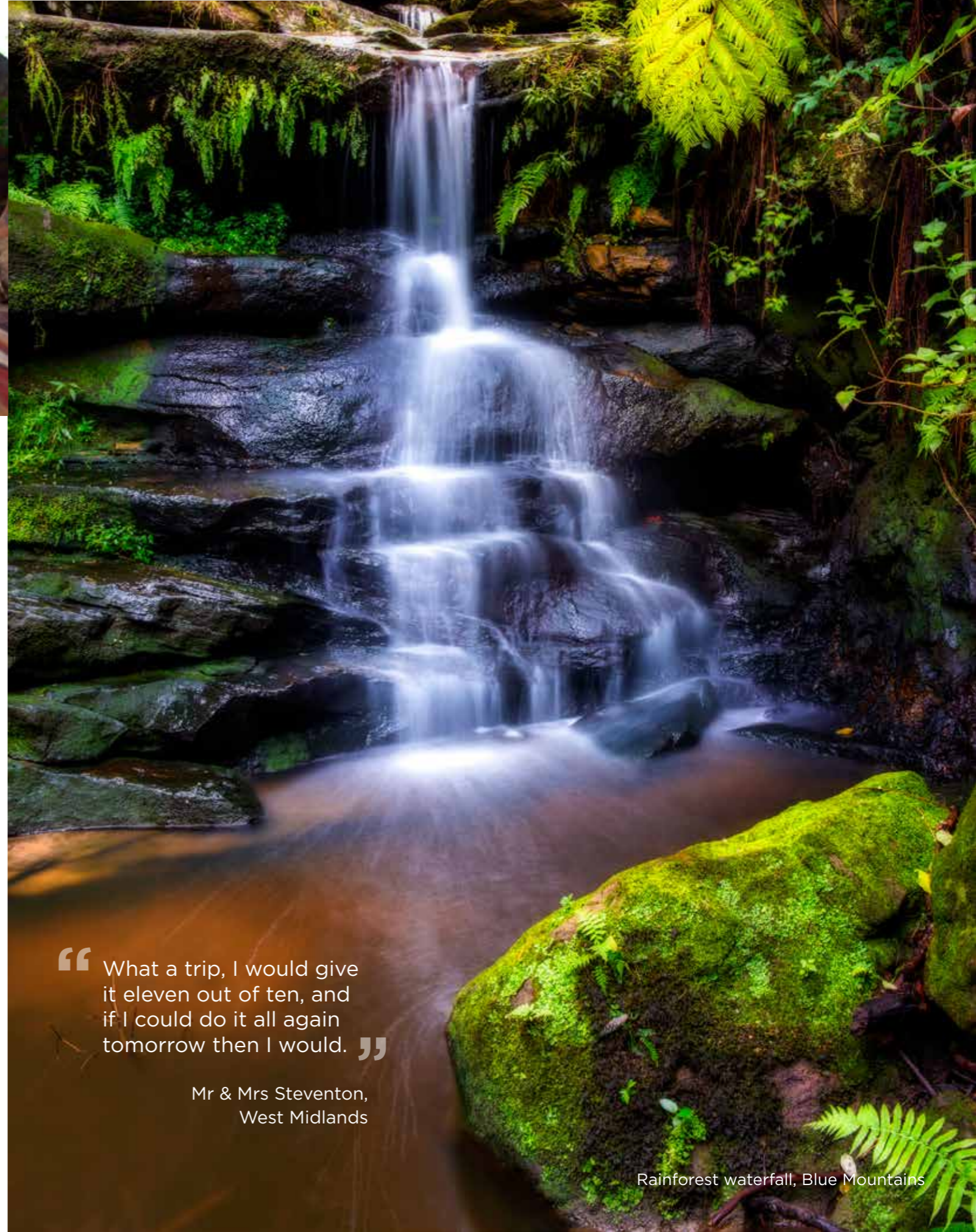
For early risers, a dawn visit to the rock has been arranged. Seeing Uluru at sunrise, from a different vantage point and in a different light, offers a totally new perspective on the ever changing colours and character of the rock. We return to the hotel in time for breakfast. Afterwards, we visit the impressive series of rounded sandstone domes known as the Olgas. Later this morning we must say a fond farewell to the Red Centre as we board our Jetstar 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 cafés, 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 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**



“ 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 26 to 28: Sydney - UK



Singapore Sling, Singapore



Dubai



Bird market, Hong Kong



Lanterns, Bangkok

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 your chosen UK 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

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, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai - 5* Marriott al Jaddaf Two nights from only £295pp

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 £345pp

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* Amari Watergate Hotel Two nights from only £195pp

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 Hotel Two nights from only £245pp

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.

Bali - 4* Melia Bali Three nights from only £395pp

For a truly relaxing homeward stopover, a stay in this beachside resort with its large private pool and many on-site dining options, is a must.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

10 October 2018	£5,895 PER PERSON
07 November 2018	£5,895 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

16 January 2019	£5,995 PER PERSON
30 January 2019	£5,995 PER PERSON
13 February 2019	£5,895 PER PERSON
06 March 2019	£5,895 PER PERSON
24 April 2019	£5,295 PER PERSON

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £1,745.
Single supplement for 24 April 2019 departure £1,595.

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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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, Bali 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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

WONDERS OF AUSTRALIA & MAGNIFICENT NEW ZEALAND



Maori culture



Fiordland National Park, New Zealand



Kangaroos

39 days from only £8,595 per person

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

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali, Sydney 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 128 - 131.

Dubai
5* Marriott al Jaddaf
Two nights from only £295pp

Hong Kong
4* Regal Kowloon
Two nights from only £345pp

Bangkok
4* Amari Watergate Hotel
Two nights from only £195pp

Singapore
4* Copthorne Kings Hotel
Two nights from only £245pp

Bali
4* Melia Bali
Three nights from only £395pp

Sydney
4* North Sydney Harbourview
Three nights from only £495pp

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

25 October 2018 **£8,595 PER PERSON**

2019 DEPARTURES

17 January 2019 **£8,595 PER PERSON**

22 February 2019* **£8,595 PER PERSON**

**Please note, the order of the Wonders of Australia for this departure is slightly different, visiting Melbourne, Adelaide, The Ghan, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Cairns and Sydney. This departure includes an extra night in Sydney before travelling to Auckland.*

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £2,495.

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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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 are available on all dates. Your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bali, Sydney or Dubai. 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 25th October 2018 departure will stay at the Sudima Hotel Christchurch. The 25th October 2018 and 17th January 2019 departures will stay at the Rendezvous Melbourne and The Hilton Cairns.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA & MAGNIFICENT NEW ZEALAND



Koala



Uluru, Australia



Lake Wanaka, New Zealand

46 days from only £9,595 per person

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

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali, Sydney 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 128 - 131.

- Dubai**
5* **Marriott al Jaddaf**
Two nights from only £295PP
-
- Hong Kong**
4* **Regal Kowloon**
Two nights from only £345PP
-
- Bangkok**
4* **Amari Watergate Hotel**
Two nights from only £195PP
-
- Singapore**
4* **Copthorne Kings Hotel**
Two nights from only £245PP
-
- Bali**
4* **Melia Bali**
Three nights from only £395PP
-
- Sydney**
4* **North Sydney Harbourview**
Three nights from only £495PP

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2019 DEPARTURES

16 February 2019 **£9,595 PER PERSON**

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £2,995.

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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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 are available on all dates. Your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bali, Sydney 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.

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VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND & WONDERS OF AUSTRALIA



Milford Sound



Uluru



Sydney, Australia

45 days from only £8,995 per person

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

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai
5* **Marriott al Jaddaf**
Two nights from only £295pp

Hong Kong
4* **Regal Kowloon**
Two nights from only £345pp

Bangkok
4* **Amari Watergate Hotel**
Two nights from only £195pp

Singapore
4* **Copthorne Kings Hotel**
Two nights from only £245pp

Bali
4* **Melia Bali**
Three nights from only £395pp

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

09 October 2018

£8,995 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

20 February 2019*

£9,195 PER PERSON

*Please note, the order of the Wonders of Australia for this departure is slightly different, visiting Melbourne, Adelaide, The Ghan, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Cairns and Sydney. This departure includes an extra night in Sydney before travelling to Auckland.

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement 09 October 2018 departure £2,595.
Single supplement 20 February 2019 departure £2,795.

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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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 are available on all dates. Your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bali or Dubai. 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 9th October 2018 departure will stay at the Rendezvous Melbourne and The Hilton Cairns. The 9th October 2018 and 20th February 2019 departures will stay at the Copthorne Hotel in Queenstown.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND & VERY BEST OF AUSTRALIA



Kiwi



Queenstown, New Zealand



Great Barrier Reef, Australia

53 days from only £10,295 per person

Day 1	Depart UK	Day 27	Auckland to Perth
Day 2	Singapore (or alternative stopover)	Day 28	Perth
Day 3	Singapore	Day 29	Perth sightseeing
Day 4	Depart Singapore	Day 30	Perth Freedom Day
Day 5	Christchurch	Day 31	Kangaroo Island
Day 6	Dunedin	Day 32	Kangaroo Island
Day 7	Dunedin	Day 33	Adelaide
Day 8	Milford Sound and Milford Mariner	Day 34	Adelaide Freedom Day
Day 9	Queenstown	Day 35	Melbourne
Day 10	Queenstown	Day 36	Melbourne Freedom Day
Day 11	Queenstown Freedom Day	Day 37	Melbourne Freedom Day
Day 12	Franz Josef	Day 38	Uluru (Ayers Rock)
Day 13	Franz Josef Freedom Day	Day 39	Alice Springs
Day 14	Nelson	Day 40	Alice Springs Freedom Day
Day 15	Nelson Freedom Day	Day 41	The Ghan
Day 16	Wellington	Day 42	Darwin
Day 17	Wellington	Day 43	Darwin Freedom Day
Day 18	Napier	Day 44	Cairns
Day 19	Napier Freedom Day	Day 45	Great Barrier Reef
Day 20	Rotorua	Day 46	Cairns Freedom Day
Day 21	Rotorua	Day 47	Cairns Freedom Day
Day 22	Bay of Islands	Day 48	Sydney
Day 23	Bay of Islands Freedom Day	Day 49	Sydney sightseeing & lunch cruise
Day 24	Bay of Islands	Day 50	Sydney Freedom Day
Day 25	Auckland	Day 51	Sydney Freedom Day
Day 26	Auckland	Day 52	Depart Sydney
		Day 53	Arrive UK

HOMEBOUND STOPOVERS

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, Bali 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 128 - 131.

Dubai
5* Marriott al Jaddaf
Two nights from only £295pp

Hong Kong
4* Regal Kowloon
Two nights from only £345pp

Bangkok
4* Amari Watergate Hotel
Two nights from only £195pp

Singapore
4* Copthorne Kings Hotel
Two nights from only £245pp

Bali
4* Melia Bali
Three nights from only £395pp

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

09 October 2018*

£10,295 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

20 February 2019

£10,295 PER PERSON

**Please note, this departure includes an additional night in Perth.*

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £3,395.

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.

Visa

£25 per person processing fee. 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 are available on all dates. Your choices are Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Bali or Dubai. 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 9th October 2018 and 20th February 2019 departures will stay at the Copthorne Hotel in Queenstown. The 20th February 2019 departure will stay at the Mercure Hotel, Kangaroo Island.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Cape Town

SPECTACULAR SOUTH AFRICA

18 days from only £3,395 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.



② = 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 £229pp
- ✓ 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 Wetland 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
- ✓ Visit a cheetah conservation project in Pretoria

We include even more

- ✓ Services of an experienced local Tour Manager and drivers
- ✓ 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

SPECTACULAR SOUTH AFRICA

Days 1 to 5: UK - Cape Town



Camps Bay, Cape Town



Stellenbosch wine region



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 our 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 city tour

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 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 breathtaking 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 cafés 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



African dining at Gold Restaurant



Mossel Bay Lighthouse



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 breathtaking 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 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. 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 lunch, your afternoon is free to relax or stroll around Knysna's pretty waterfront.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 9: Knysna Freedom Day

On our Freedom Day, we 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, 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



Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Reserve



Observation car, Rovos Rail



Pride of Africa dining car

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 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

Today 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 to explore 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 an African bush experience, eating dinner under the stars, next to a roaring fire in the lodge's boma - a wonderful experience providing 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 bird life. 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 Irene Country Lodge, a lovely hotel set within wonderful grounds.

Breakfast included

DURBAN SAFARI WITH ROVOS RAIL

Days 13 to 15: Rovos Rail Durban Safari - Pretoria



As an alternative to the two night safari in 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 ensuite 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 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 their 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 Game 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

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 Irene Country Lodge, a lovely hotel set within wonderful grounds.

Breakfast and lunch included

SPECTACULAR SOUTH AFRICA

Days 16 to 18: Pretoria - UK



Sunset, Cape Town

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 our 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 for only £995 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 to relax in luxurious surroundings, with easy access to the falls.

For more information and prices, see pages 100 – 101.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES with Ubizane Nature Reserve

17 October 2018	£3,295 PER PERSON
20 November 2018*	£3,295 PER PERSON

2018 DEPARTURES with Rovos Rail

17 October 2018	£3,795 PER PERSON
20 November 2018*	£3,795 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES with Ubizane Nature Reserve

16 January 2019	£3,395 PER PERSON
30 January 2019	£3,495 PER PERSON
05 March 2019*	£3,395 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES with Rovos Rail

30 January 2019	£3,995 PER PERSON
05 March 2019*	£3,895 PER PERSON

* These tours operate 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.

Supplements

Single supplement £795 with Ubizane. £1,145 with Rovos Rail. Please call for details.

Deposit

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

Alternative hotels

The tour departing 30th January 2019 will stay at the Commodore Hotel in Cape Town.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk

VICTORIA FALLS EXTENSION

Three nights from only £995 per person



Victoria Falls Safari Lodge



Views from the hotel pool



Victoria Falls

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 90 - 99.

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, a relaxing experience where hopefully we may sight hippopotamus, crocodile, elephant and other wildlife species. Afterwards enjoy dinner in 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 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 river front 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**

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 & 2019 DEPARTURES

All dates	£995 PER PERSON
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Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £195.

Deposits

When booking the Spectacular South Africa tour, your deposit will cover 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\$50 per person. 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), there are currently no charges for visas, but this may change in the future.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



Taj Mahal, Agra

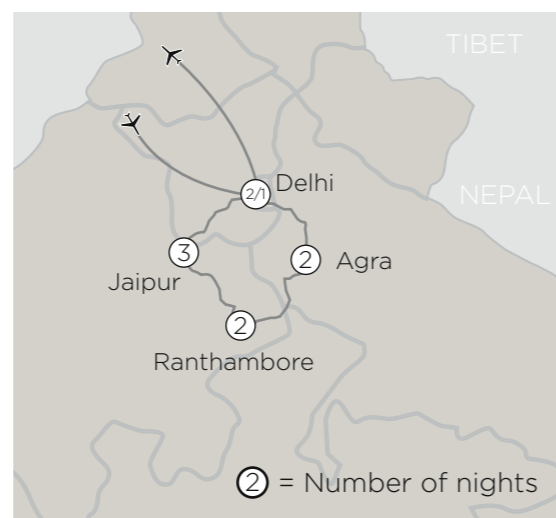
THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE & RANTHAMBORE

12 days from only £2,195 per person

Distant Journeys is delighted to introduce a new destination – India. A country which will enchant, surprise and sometimes challenge you, it's a destination like no other and Distant Journeys takes you around India's 'Golden Triangle', a classic itinerary including three iconic, colourful cities.

The tour begins in the nation's capital, Delhi, full of astounding architecture and vibrant culture; continuing to the 'Pink City' of Jaipur, before spending two nights in Ranthambore National Park, home to the elusive tiger. No tour of India would be complete without visiting arguably the most beautiful building in the world – the Taj Mahal. We spend two nights in Agra, allowing plenty of time to savour the Taj Mahal's splendour.

Staying in top quality hotels throughout, and conducted at a relaxed pace, this tour is the perfect way to explore and enjoy the enigma that is India.



TOUR HIGHLIGHT The Taj Mahal



A shimmering, white marble monument to love, the Taj Mahal is simply unmissable and unforgettable.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

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

Carefully selected hotels

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

Many meals included

- ✓ Daily breakfast included, worth £144pp
- ✓ Five lunches included
- ✓ Dinner at Amber Fort
- ✓ Farewell dinner
- ✓ Two further dinners included

Unforgettable experiences included

- ✓ Sightseeing tours in Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra
- ✓ Visit the Heritage Transport Museum
- ✓ Explore Amber Fort, including Jeep ride
- ✓ Two safari drives in Ranthambore National Park
- ✓ Fatehpur Sikri
- ✓ The iconic Taj Mahal

We include even more

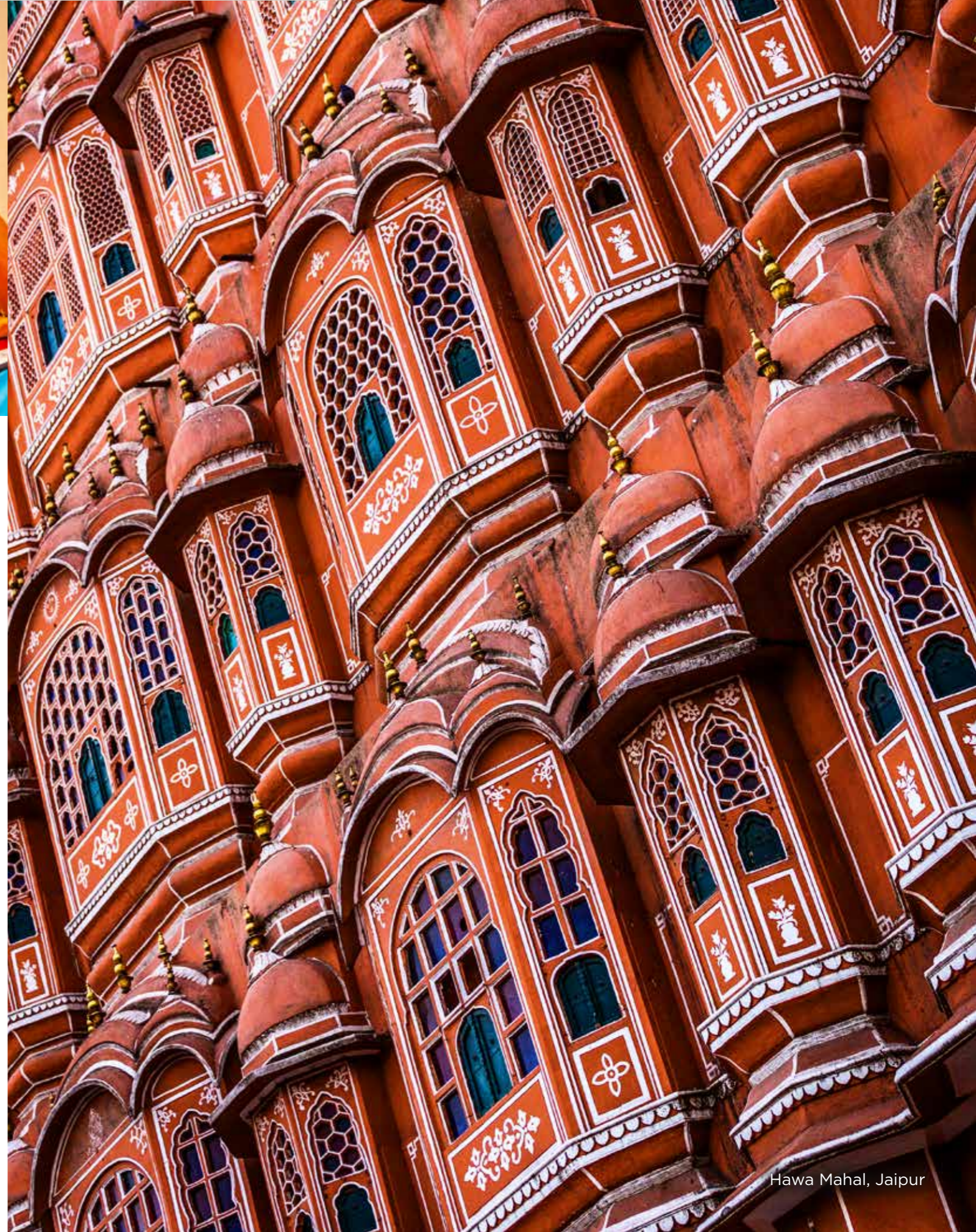
- ✓ Services of an experienced local Tour Manager and Coach Captain
- ✓ All hotel portorage
- ✓ All overseas transfers and transport in modern air-conditioned coaches
- ✓ All airport charges, security charges and applicable fuel surcharges
- ✓ UK Air Passenger Duty
- ✓ No surcharge guarantee
- ✓ ATOL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

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE & RANTHAMBORE

Days 1 to 5: UK - Delhi - Jaipur



Street market, Delhi



Day 1: Depart UK

Depart from the UK airport most convenient for you with Emirates: London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham or Glasgow. Alternatively, fly direct with Virgin Atlantic from London Heathrow. No matter which airline or airport you choose, there will be no additional cost.
In-flight meals and drinks included

Day 2: Delhi, 2 nights

All flights with Emirates to Delhi will travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Delhi and transfer to the five star Hyatt Regency - a first class hotel, conveniently located in New Delhi. This evening, enjoy a welcome drink with your Tour Manager and fellow travellers, to become acquainted and to learn more about our adventure ahead.
In-flight meals and drinks included

Day 3: Delhi

Delhi stands as the capital of modern India, where you can experience the combined historic and architectural wonders of the adjoined cities, Old and New Delhi. We begin the day with a fascinating cycle rickshaw ride through the bustling narrow streets of Chandani Chowk in Old Delhi, the former commercial centre of Delhi and still an important trading area of the city. We travel via the opulent Mughal-built Red Fort, Shah Jahan's symbol of power and elegance, and make a stop at India's largest mosque - Jama Masjid.

The contrast with the pulsating streets of Old Delhi is evident as we take a drive along the wide tree-lined boulevards of New Delhi. We pass the imposing India Gate and Parliament House before enjoying lunch at the delightful Olive Bar & Kitchen.

Later, we further explore New Delhi, including Humayun's Tomb and the 13th-century Qutub Minar, a red sandstone and white marble minaret, measuring over 75 metres tall.
Breakfast and lunch included

Day 4: Jaipur, 3 nights

Following breakfast, we drive to Jaipur, stopping en route to visit the excellent Heritage Transport Museum. Enjoy an interesting journey through the evolution of India's motor industry on a self-guided tour. Later, we continue to the colourful city of Jaipur, popularly known as the 'Pink City', and to the ITC Rajputana - a superior hotel with fantastic facilities.
Breakfast and lunch included

Day 5: Jaipur

This morning we head out of the city and board our waiting Jeeps, which will take us up the steep-sided slopes of the majestic Amber Fort. This UNESCO World Heritage site is a fabulous example of Rajput architecture, and you will be equally amazed by the grandeur of its royal halls, decorated with intricate ivory, mirror and glassworks. Later, we stop for a photo opportunity at the beautiful façade of the Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds), before discovering the delights of Jaipur. We explore City Palace Museum, with its blend of Rajasthani and Mughal Art, and the awe-inspiring Jantar Mantar, an observatory built in 1726 which still provides accurate information to this day.

In the evening we have the option to take one of two wonderful dining experiences (at an additional cost). The first choice is a dinner under the stars, surrounded by bushland and the Aravali Hills, at Dera Amer. Our second option is to dine in the home of a local Rajasthani family,

where we will be treated to a cooking demonstration and an insight into well-heeled Indian life, in the company of our friendly hosts.
Breakfast included

We recommend:
Dine in a family home, Jaipur



Be treated to a cookery demonstration and dinner in the company of a Rajasthani family.

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE & RANTHAMBORE

Days 6 to 11: Jaipur - Ranthambore - Agra - Delhi



Amber Fort, Jaipur



Tiger, Ranthambore



Taj Mahal, Agra

Day 6: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Jaipur Freedom Day & Amber Fort Dinner



Our first Indian 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. For example, we have the opportunity to take a heritage walking tour through the heart of the old city, learning about the local trades and crafts as we navigate the narrow streets. Alternatively, you may wish to discover the ancient art of hand block printing and creating the region's famous Blue Pottery, or you may like to explore a local organic farm, including a live cookery demonstration.

This evening will undoubtedly be a real highlight of the tour, a lavish dinner served at 1135AD, a beautiful restaurant set within the historic ramparts of Amber Fort. We dine like royals, in opulent surroundings, with Amber Fort illuminated against the night sky to make an enchanting backdrop.

Breakfast and dinner included

Day 7: Ranthambore, 2 nights

We leave Jaipur and journey to our hotel in Ranthambore, Nahargarh, which has been built in the style of a traditional Rajput hunting palace and will be our home for the next two nights. Ranthambore National Park is a forested area, with a rugged terrain of rocky ridges, open valleys and lakes. Once the private hunting ground of the Maharaja, the park is now celebrated for its wildlife conservation, and in particular its majestic tigers. Following lunch, we board our open canter vehicle for our first game drive in the park. Whilst the elusive tiger is the park's most famous inhabitant, keep an eye out for sambar deer, marsh crocodiles, sloth bears, monkeys, leopards and more than 250 species of bird life. After a thrilling afternoon, we return to our hotel in time for dinner.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included

Day 8: Ranthambore

Early this morning, we explore a different area of the National Park in search of more wildlife experiences and to see some of the impressive forts, ancient temple ruins, and ramshackle palaces which dot the landscape. We return to our hotel for breakfast, and the remainder of the day is free to spend as we please. The hotel has a wonderful pool area, which is a perfect place to unwind for a few hours with a good book. This evening enjoy a barbecue dinner within the hotel's picturesque grounds.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included

We recommend: Heritage walking tour, Jaipur



Explore the narrow streets of Jaipur in the company of your knowledgeable local guide.

Day 9: Agra, 2 nights

All good things must come to an end, and this morning we leave Ranthambore as we make our way to Bharatpur. Enjoy lunch in the peaceful surroundings of Laxmi Niwas Palace before we journey to Fatehpur Sikri. Built in the 16th century by Emperor Akbar, Fatehpur Sikri was deserted after only 14 years of rule. The abandoned city has been extremely well preserved and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site, providing a wonderful insight into life in the time of the Mughal dynasty. Following our tour of Fatehpur Sikri, we continue to Agra and the Jaypee Palace, where we spend our next two nights.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 10: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Agra and the Taj Mahal



Agra is home to India's most iconic attraction, the Taj Mahal, and this morning we enjoy our first experience of this magnificent monument. Taking 22 years to complete, with over 20,000 craftsmen working around the clock, the Taj Mahal was built by Shah Jahan in memory of his late wife and is justifiably considered the world's greatest monument to love. The purity of its white marble exterior and precious gemstones makes this arguably the most beautiful building in the world. Having spent time exploring the Taj Mahal, we visit the impressive 16th century Agra Fort, a commanding red sandstone monument stretching 2.5 kilometres along the banks of River Yamuna. This walled imperial city was once the home of the Mughal rulers, and for many years, the country was governed from here. Your afternoon has been left free to spend as you please. This evening, why not experience Mohabbat the Taj show - an 80 minute presentation, which perfectly complements the love story behind the Taj Mahal.

Breakfast included

Day 11: Delhi, overnight

Early risers will be able to see the Taj again, from across the river at Mehtab Bagh or Moonlit Gardens. These gardens offer a peaceful opportunity to marvel at the monument and provide incredible photo opportunities of the subtle colour changes as the sun rises. Following breakfast in the hotel, we travel to New Delhi and the Pride Plaza Hotel. Your afternoon is free to spend as you wish, before we bid farewell to India and our new-found friends with a celebratory dinner.

Breakfast and dinner included

We recommend: Mohabbat the Taj Show, Agra



To complete your Taj Mahal experience, why not enjoy a show about the story behind this iconic building?

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE & RANTHAMBORE

Days 12: Delhi - UK



Red Fort, Agra



Ranthambore wildlife



Day 12: Depart India – Arrive UK

We depart Delhi with Emirates, and fly via Dubai to our chosen airport; London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham or Glasgow. Alternatively, fly with Virgin Atlantic direct to London Heathrow.

Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included

WHY NOT ADD ON A HOMEWARD STOPOVER IN DUBAI?

Three nights from only £395 per person

If you have chosen to travel with Emirates, you have the option to add a relaxing three night stopover at the Sheraton Jumeirah Beach Resort, Dubai. The price for the stopover is £395 per person (£595 for single occupancy) and includes airport-hotel transfers, accommodation and daily breakfast.

Please see page 131 for more details.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

13 October 2018	£2,445 PER PERSON
10 November 2018	£2,445 PER PERSON

2019 DEPARTURES

12 January 2019	£2,445 PER PERSON
09 February 2019	£2,445 PER PERSON
09 March 2019	£2,445 PER PERSON
27 April 2019	£2,195 PER PERSON

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £645.
Single supplement for 27 April departure 2019 £495.

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.

Homebound stopovers

A homebound stopover in Dubai is available on all dates if choosing to fly with Emirates.

Visas

British and Irish Citizens travelling to India will be required to obtain an e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) before travelling. You can find more information about the eligibility criteria for the e-visa and apply online on the government of India's e-Tourist Visa website <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>. The cost of this visa is currently (September 2017) USD75 per person. For simplicity, you may prefer to use a visa agency to obtain your visa. We recommend a company called VisaHQ. Please call for details.

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 136 - 139 or visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk



A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA

17 days from only £2,995 per person

Spend a little longer in India with Distant Journeys, and delve deeper into the heart of this mystical, mesmerising country. A Journey through India enjoys all the highlights of a classic touring itinerary, but also includes visits to places off the well-trodden tourist path.

After completing the Golden Triangle of Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, along with a safari stay in Ranthambore National Park, we move on to Lucknow and Varanasi.

The historic city of Lucknow has an air of grandeur, redolent of the days of the British Raj, and is today a cultural and artistic centre. Varanasi by contrast is the spiritual and sacred heart of India, situated by the banks of the holy River Ganges, and offers a true taste of India at its most authentic.

You'll return home with a lifetime of memories, and a real understanding of the mysterious, magical soul of India.



TOUR HIGHLIGHT Amber Fort Dinner



Dine like royalty at a lavish dinner served in the opulent surrounds of Jaipur's Amber Fort.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

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

Carefully selected hotels

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

Many meals included

- ✓ Daily breakfast included, worth £219pp
- ✓ Six lunches included
- ✓ Two packed lunches
- ✓ Dinner at Amber Fort
- ✓ Farewell dinner
- ✓ Two further dinners included

Unforgettable experiences included

- ✓ Sightseeing tours in Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Lucknow and Varanasi
- ✓ Visit the Heritage Transport Museum
- ✓ Explore Amber Fort, including Jeep ride
- ✓ Two safari drives in Ranthambore National Park
- ✓ Fatehpur Sikri
- ✓ The iconic Taj Mahal
- ✓ Boat ride on the River Ganges

We include even more

- ✓ Services of an experienced local Tour Manager and Coach Captain
- ✓ 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

A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA

Days 1 to 4: UK - Delhi



Indian dosa



Day 1: Depart UK

Depart from the UK airport most convenient for you with Emirates: London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham or Glasgow. Alternatively, fly direct with Virgin Atlantic from London Heathrow. No matter which airline or airport you choose, there will be no additional cost.

In-flight meals and drinks included

Day 2: Delhi, 3 nights

All flights with Emirates to Delhi will travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Delhi and transfer to the five star Hyatt Regency - a first class hotel, conveniently located in New Delhi. This evening, enjoy a welcome drink with your Tour Manager and fellow travellers, to get to know one another and learn more about the adventure ahead.

In-flight meals and drinks included

Day 3: Delhi

Delhi stands as the capital of modern India, where you can experience the combined historic and architectural wonders of the adjoining cities, Old and New Delhi. We begin the day with a fascinating cycle rickshaw ride through the bustling narrow streets of Chandani Chowk in Old Delhi, the former commercial centre of Delhi and still an important trading area of the city. We travel via the opulent Mughal-built Red Fort, Shah Jahan's symbol of power and elegance, and make a stop at India's largest mosque - Jama Masjid.

The contrast with the pulsating streets of Old Delhi is evident as we take a drive along the wide tree-lined boulevards of New Delhi. We pass the imposing India Gate and Parliament House before enjoying lunch at the delightful Olive Bar & Kitchen.

Later, we further explore New Delhi, including Humayun's Tomb and the 13th-century Qutub Minar, a red sandstone and white marble minaret, measuring over 75 metres tall.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 4: Delhi Freedom Day

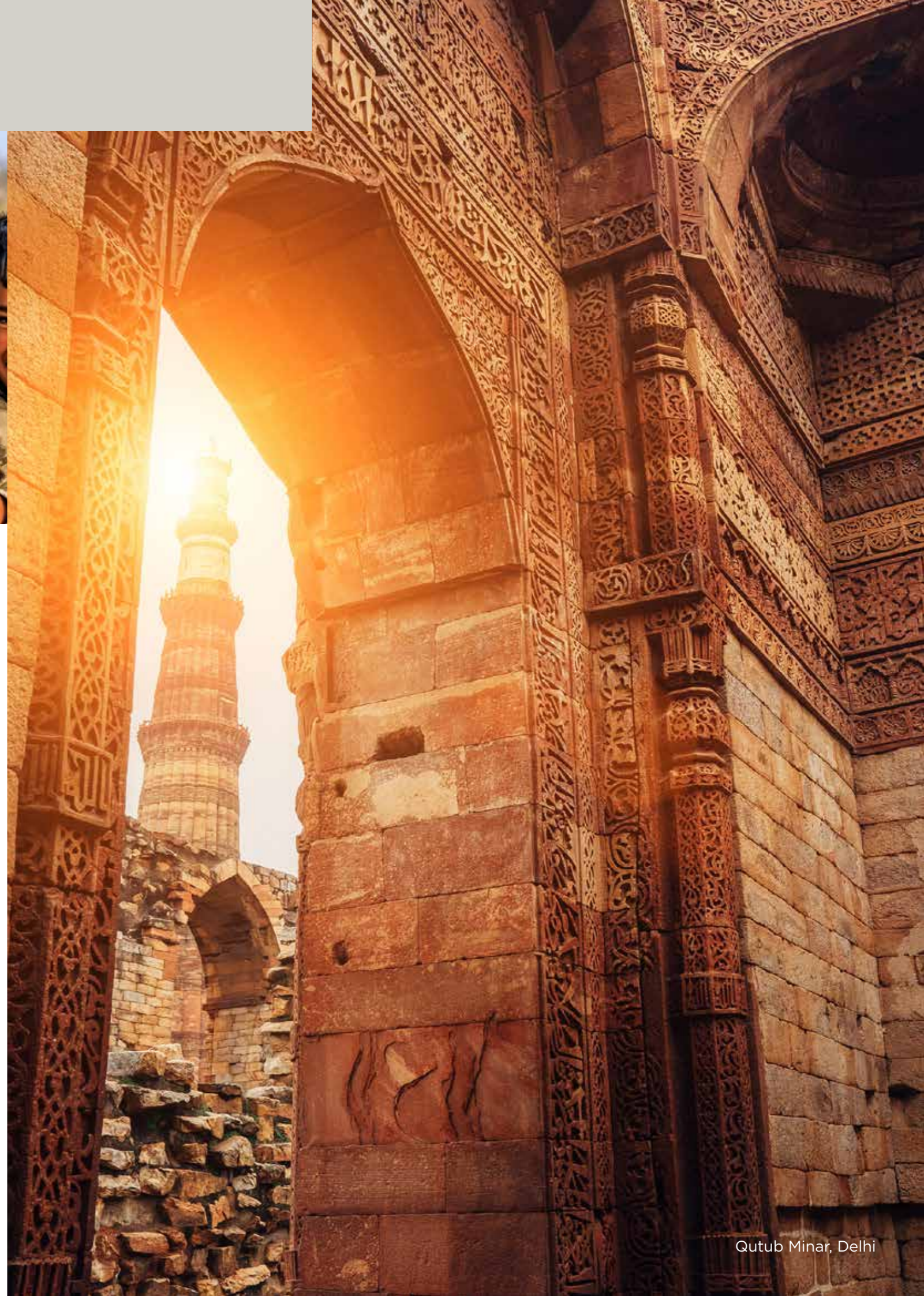
Our first Indian Freedom Day allows us to spend the day as we please. Our Distant Journeys Tour Manager will be on hand to help with advice on things to do, where to eat, make any arrangements and book excursions for you to further explore the area. Perhaps explore Akshardham Temple and Lotus Temple, two of India's most architecturally impressive wonders. Alternatively, you may prefer to learn about India's melting pot of different cultures, languages and religions during a half day tour, or take a walking tour of Delhi's schools and markets, guided by street children who are supported by the Salaam Baalak Trust. In the evening, there is an option to dine in one of three lovely restaurants, each serving their own versions of traditional Indian dining.

Breakfast included

**We recommend:
Akshardham and Lotus Temples**



Explore two of India's most beautiful pieces of architecture.



Qutub Minar, Delhi

A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA

Days 5 to 11: Jaipur - Ranthambore - Agra



Jantar Mantar observatory, Jaipur



Ranthambore National Park



Taj Mahal

Day 5: Jaipur, 3 nights

Following breakfast, we drive to Jaipur, stopping en route to visit the excellent Heritage Transport Museum. We enjoy an interesting journey through the evolution of India's motor industry on a self-guided tour. Later, we continue to the colourful city of Jaipur, popularly known as the 'Pink City', and to the ITC Rajputana - a superior hotel with fantastic facilities.

Breakfast and lunch included

We recommend: Heritage walking tour, Jaipur



Explore the narrow streets of Jaipur in the company of your knowledgeable local guide.

Day 6: Jaipur

This morning we head out of the city and board our waiting Jeeps, which will take us up the steep-sided slopes of the majestic Amber Fort. This UNESCO World Heritage site is a fabulous example of Rajput architecture, and you will be equally amazed by the grandeur of its royal halls, decorated with intricate ivory, mirror and glassworks. Later, we stop for a photo opportunity at the beautiful façade of the Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds), before discovering the delights of Jaipur. We explore City Palace Museum, with its blend of Rajasthani and Mughal Art, and the awe-inspiring Jantar Mantar, an observatory built in 1726 which still provides accurate information to this day.

In the evening we have the option to take one of two wonderful dining experiences (at an additional cost). The first choice is a dinner under the stars, surrounded by bushland and the Aravali Hills, at Dera Amer. Your second option is to dine in the home of a local Rajasthani family, where you will be treated to a cooking demonstration and an insight into well-heeled Indian life, in the company of your friendly hosts.

Breakfast included

Day 7: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Jaipur Freedom Day & Amber Fort Dinner



Take advantage of a Jaipur Freedom Day, where you can choose to relax or explore as you please. For example, we have the opportunity to take a heritage walking tour through the heart of the old city, learning about the local trades and crafts as we navigate the narrow streets. Alternatively, you may wish to discover the ancient art of hand block printing and creating the region's famous Blue Pottery, or you may like to explore a local organic farm, including a live cookery demonstration.

This evening will undoubtedly be a real highlight of the tour; a lavish dinner served at 1135AD, a beautiful restaurant set within the historic ramparts of Amber Fort. We dine like royals, in opulent surroundings, with Amber Fort illuminated against the night sky to make an enchanting backdrop.

Breakfast and dinner included

Day 8: Ranthambore, 2 nights

We leave Jaipur and journey to our hotel in Ranthambore, Nahargarh, which has been built in the style of a traditional Rajput hunting palace and will be our home for the next two nights. Ranthambore National Park is a forested area, with a rugged terrain of rocky ridges, open valleys and lakes. Once the private hunting ground of the Maharaja, the park is now celebrated for its wildlife conservation, and in particular its majestic tigers. Following lunch, we board our open canter vehicle for our first game drive in the park. Whilst the elusive tiger is the park's most famous inhabitant, keep an eye out for sambar deer, marsh crocodiles, sloth bears, monkeys, leopards and more than 250 species of bird life. After a thrilling afternoon, we return to our hotel in time for dinner.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included

Day 9: Ranthambore

Early this morning, we explore a different area of the National Park in search of more wildlife experiences and to see some of the impressive forts, ancient temple ruins, and ramshackle palaces which dot the landscape. We return to our hotel for breakfast, and the remainder of the day is free to spend as we please. The hotel has a wonderful pool area, which is a perfect place to unwind for a few hours with a good book. This evening enjoy a barbecue dinner within the hotel's picturesque grounds.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included

Day 10: Agra, 2 nights

All good things must come to an end, and this morning we leave Ranthambore as we make our way to Bharatpur. Enjoy lunch in the peaceful surroundings of Laxmi Niwas Palace before we journey to Fatehpur Sikri. Built in the 16th century by Emperor Akbar, Fatehpur Sikri was deserted after only 14 years of rule. The abandoned city has been extremely well preserved and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site, providing a wonderful insight into life in the time of the Mughal dynasty. Following our tour of Fatehpur Sikri, we continue to Agra and the Jaypee Palace, where we spend our next two nights.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 11: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Agra and the Taj Mahal



Agra is home to India's most iconic attraction, the Taj Mahal, and this morning we enjoy our first experience of this magnificent monument. Taking 22 years to complete, with over 20,000 craftsmen working around the clock, the Taj Mahal was built by Shah Jahan in memory of his late wife and is justifiably considered the world's greatest monument to love. The purity of its white marble exterior and precious gemstones makes this arguably the most beautiful building in the world. Having spent time exploring the Taj Mahal, we visit the impressive 16th century Agra Fort, a commanding red sandstone monument stretching 2.5 kilometres along the banks of River Yamuna. This walled imperial city was once the home of the Mughal rulers, and for many years, the country was governed from here. Our afternoon has been left free to spend as we please. This evening, why not experience Mohabbat the Taj show - an 80 minute presentation, which perfectly complements the love story behind the Taj Mahal.

Breakfast included

A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA

Days 12 to 15: Lucknow - Varanasi



Asfi Mosque shrine, Lucknow

Day 12: Lucknow, 2 nights

Early risers will be able to see the Taj again, from across the river at Mehtab Bagh or Moonlit Gardens. These gardens offer a peaceful opportunity to marvel at the monument and provide incredible photo opportunities of the subtle colour changes as the sun rises. Following breakfast in the hotel, we travel to Lucknow and the next two nights will be spent at Lebua, a boutique hotel, decorated using the Art-Deco style which prevailed in the early 1900s. This evening, we have the option of a dinner in the magnificent surroundings of the city palace, Khajoorgaon. A delightful evening awaits in the company of the Maharaja's family, who host an authentic home-cooked dinner and explain the history of Lucknow's Hindu royalty.

Breakfast and packed lunch included

Day 13: Lucknow

Lucknow is a multicultural city that has flourished as a cultural and artistic hub, and was the seat of power of the Nawabs in the 18th and 19th centuries. The city rose to prominence during the 1857 Indian mutiny, when it saw fierce fighting between British and Indian armies. Today, we explore the fascinating history of this city from 1784 through to modern times, including visits to La Martiniere School, Bara Imambara and The British Residency.

Breakfast and lunch included

Day 14: Varanasi, 2 nights

Today we embark on a journey to Varanasi, situated on the banks of the sacred River Ganges, and one of the oldest and holiest cities in the world. For the Hindu religion in particular, Varanasi is considered as the place that provides the ultimate pilgrimage, where pilgrims come to the ghats lining the Ganges to wash away sins in the sacred waters or to cremate their loved ones. The city shows India at its most authentic, with a kaleidoscope of sights, sounds and smells around every corner. We stay for two nights at the comfortable Ramada Plaza Hotel.

Breakfast and packed lunch included

Day 15: **TOUR HIGHLIGHT** Varanasi, morning boat ride on the River Ganges



Varanasi comes alive in the morning as pilgrims flock to the river banks to bathe in the holy water and worship the rising sun. We rise early to experience sunrise during a boat ride on the Ganges - a truly spectacular sight. Following our spiritual start to the day, we explore the old city and Bharat Mata Temple before returning to our hotel for breakfast. This afternoon, we take an excursion to Sarnath, where Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment, and explore the important treasures contained within its archaeological museum. In the evening we return to the ghats on the Ganges to experience the Aarti ceremony, amongst hundreds of lighted candles and flower offerings. Later there is an optional dinner in the incredible Brijrama Palace, one of the oldest landmarks of Varanasi.

Breakfast included



A JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA

Days 16 to 17: Delhi - UK



Indian street vendor



Red Fort, Agra



Jantar Mantar Monument, Jaipur



Varanasi

Day 16: Delhi, overnight

After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our flight to Delhi. On arrival in Delhi, we will be transferred to the nearby Pride Plaza Hotel, New Delhi. Your afternoon is free to spend as you wish, before we bid farewell to India and our new-found friends with a celebratory dinner.

Breakfast and dinner included

Day 17: Depart India - Arrive UK

We depart Delhi with Emirates, and fly via Dubai to our chosen airport; London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham or Glasgow. Alternatively, fly with Virgin Atlantic direct to London Heathrow.

Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included

WHY NOT ADD ON A HOMEWARD STOPOVER IN DUBAI?

Three nights from only £395 per person

If you have chosen to travel with Emirates, you have the option to add a relaxing three night stopover at the Sheraton Jumeirah Beach Resort, Dubai. The price for the stopover is £395 per person (£595 for single occupancy) and includes airport-hotel transfers, accommodation and daily breakfast.

Please see page 131 for more details.



DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES

2018 DEPARTURES

03 November 2018 **£2,995 PER PERSON**

2019 DEPARTURES

19 January 2019 **£2,995 PER PERSON**

02 February 2019 **£2,995 PER PERSON**

02 March 2019 **£2,995 PER PERSON**

Prices

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

Supplements

Single supplement £995.

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.

Homebound stopovers

A homebound stopover in Dubai is available on all dates if choosing to fly with Emirates.

Visas

British and Irish Citizens travelling to India will be required to obtain an e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) before travelling. You can find more information about the eligibility criteria for the e-visa and apply online on the government of India's e-Tourist Visa website <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>. The cost of this visa is currently (September 2017) USD75 per person. For simplicity, you may prefer to use a visa agency to obtain your visa. We recommend a company called VisaHQ. Please call for details.

Terms and conditions

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Adelaide Mayfair Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Adelaide, the Mayfair Hotel offers an elegant and stylish base for your stay. Each room enjoys modern facilities and boutique style décor. The stunning Mayflower Restaurant and Bar offers a delicious à la carte menu and a selection of hand-picked South Australian wines. Admire the city views from the newly opened Hennessy Rooftop Bar and add a touch of glamour to your night.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Adelaide Stamford Plaza

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: ★★★★★



Alice Springs DoubleTree by Hilton

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: ★★★★★



Indian Pacific 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.



Kangaroo Island Aurora Ozone Hotel

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: ★★★★★



Melbourne Clarion Suites Gateway

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: ★★★★★



Ayers Rock Resort Voyages Desert Gardens

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 Arrnguli Grill and savour an à la carte flame-grilled menu.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Cairns DoubleTree by Hilton

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: ★★★★★



Darwin DoubleTree by Hilton Esplanade

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: ★★★★★



Melbourne Mercure Treasury Gardens

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 Hop Sing Restaurant, serving Asian tapas.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



AUSTRALIA

Hotel directory



Melbourne Rendezvous Hotel

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: ★★★★★



Noosa Peppers Resort

A beautiful hotel located in the peaceful Noosa National Park and surrounded with incredible vistas. The hotel boasts contemporary and spacious one-bed apartments providing guests with a home from home whilst in Noosa. Visit the View Restaurant, famous for its local produce and enjoy the sunset over Laguna Bay whilst you dine.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Palm Cove Peppers Beach Club & Spa

Set beside the majestic palm-fringed beach front Peppers Palm Cove is a tropical oasis. Take a dip in the lagoon pool and enjoy a refreshing drink or two at the swim-up pool bar. The hotel enjoys an on-site tennis clubhouse and gym. If you really feel like indulging why not sample the hotel's High Tea? Enjoy an evening meal overlooking the tranquil beach setting, at the Lime and Pepper Restaurant.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

NEW ZEALAND

Hotel directory



Perth Pan Pacific

The Pan Pacific Hotel is located just a short stroll from the Swan River and Perth's main shopping and entertainment hub. Rooms are bright, spacious and modern, perfect for a stay in the city. Try the award-winning dinner buffet at Monterey's Restaurant – from fresh Australian seafood to dishes inspired by the hotel's Asian heritage, there is something for every taste!

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Sydney North Sydney Harbourview Hotel

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: ★★★★★



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.



Auckland Scenic Hotel

The Scenic Hotel is superbly positioned right in the heart of Auckland, just a short stroll from the city's main restaurants and shops. Enjoy modern comfortable rooms with complimentary WiFi access. Dine at the M.L.C. café and bar and watch as the busy city life goes by. Take your pick from the varied menu which includes fresh and tasty local produce.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Paihia Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands

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: ★★★★★



Rotorua Millennium Hotel

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: ★★★★★



Rotorua Distinction Hotel

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: ★★★★★



Napier Scenic Hotel Te Pania

Wake up to beautiful views of Hawkes' Bay at the superbly positioned Scenic Hotel Te Pania. Just a short walk away from Napier's famous art-deco area and many restaurants and bars. Dine alfresco at the Exchange Brasserie and admire the tranquil ocean vistas. Sample some delicious wines from the Napier region and take your pick from the enticing menu filled with local delicious produce.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Wellington Copthorne Hotel Oriental Bay

Perfectly situated in Wellington's famous Oriental Bay, the Copthorne Hotel is a great and comfortable base for your stay in the capital. The hotel is just a few minutes walk from the city's main shopping and dining areas. All guest rooms are modern and spacious with free access to WIFI. Why not make use of the heated indoor swimming pool before spending the evening at the hotel's stylish One80° Restaurant and Cocktail Bar?

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Milford Sound Milford Mariner

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.



Dunedin Distinction Hotel

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 offer the traveller a venue to unwind and enjoy.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Christchurch Heartland Hotel Cotswold

Boasting spacious grounds and award-winning gardens, excellent service, well-appointed guest rooms 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: ★★★★★



Nelson Rutherford Hotel

Centrally located and a prime spot from which to visit the many sights of Nelson. All guest rooms enjoy modern décor and internet access. During your stay why not take advantage of the hotel's gym and sauna facilities or take a dip in the outdoor swimming pool. Take your pick from the excellent Oceano Restaurant serving fresh and tasty New Zealand produce or try the award-winning Miyazu Japanese Restaurant.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Franz Josef Scenic Hotel Franz Josef, Graham Wing

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: ★★★★★



Queenstown Millennium Hotel

This welcoming 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. The Millennium Hotel 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: ★★★★★



Christchurch Distinction Hotel

A newly refurbished hotel located right in the heart of Christchurch in the famous Cathedral Square. Take a stroll to Oxford Terrace, the home of some of Christchurch's best restaurants and bars. The hotel enjoys stylish and modern rooms, great for unwinding after a busy day. The Distinction Hotel also offers an on-site gym, sauna, restaurant and bar area to finish the day.

New hotel not yet rated



SOUTH AFRICA

Hotel directory



Cape Town Southern Sun Waterfront

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: ★★★★★



Knysna The Rex Hotel

The Rex Hotel is one of Knysna's most elegant hotels, 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: ★★★★★



Durban Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel

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: ★★★★★

INDIA

Hotel directory



Delhi Hyatt Regency

Set in the heart of New Delhi, the Hyatt Regency Delhi is surrounded by many local restaurants, monuments and shopping areas. The hotel boasts bright and modern rooms. This 5* hotel in New Delhi will leave you spoilt for choice with its 8 on-site restaurants and bars, ranging from traditional Indian cuisine to European style bakeries.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Jaipur ITC Rajputana

The ITC Rajputana Jaipur is conveniently located right in the heart of the bustling city. The hotel has been beautifully and elegantly decorated to give it a palatial feel - perfect for escaping the busy city. All guest rooms are bright and spacious and enjoy many modern comforts. The hotel boasts three stylish restaurants each offering something a little different.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Ranthambore Nahargarh

Nestled between the Aravali Ranges and Ranthambore National Park, Nahargarh provides a tranquil setting for your stay. Relax in the hotel's courtyards or surrounding gardens and retreat to the swimming pool for a swim after a thrilling game drive. The hotel's restaurant offers both traditional and many other delicious cuisines - guests will be spoilt for choice. Enjoy a nightcap at the military themed Lancer's bar after dinner.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Ubizane Nature Reserve Ubizane Tree and Safari Lodges

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'; 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.



Pretoria Irene Country Lodge

Located in the pretty village of Irene, a short drive outside of Pretoria, the Irene Country Lodge is an oasis of tranquillity set in beautiful lakeside gardens surrounded by the Camdeboo Forest. The bedrooms are comfortably furnished with local mahogany for an authentic South African ambience, and the outdoor pool is a perfect spot to relax in the African sunshine.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Agra Jaypee Palace

Set amongst 25 acres of beautiful landscape gardens, the Jaypee Palace is a tranquil and elegant hotel. The hotel offers a large outdoor swimming pool, Turkish baths, spa facilities, and spacious comfortable guest rooms. With seven on-site restaurants guests will be left spoilt for choice. From fine dining to tapas or even a buffet, the Jaypee Palace caters to all tastes.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Lucknow The Lebuva Hotel

Surrounded by luscious greenery, the Lebuva Hotel Lucknow is conveniently situated in the heart of the city. Incorporating a mix of Art Deco and modern décor, this boutique hotel is the perfect base for your visit. Each room at the Lebuva Lucknow has been individually decorated to reflect the culture and heritage of Lucknow. The hotel offers an outdoor pool surrounded by tranquil gardens, perfect for relaxing in.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★



Varanasi Ramada Plaza

A lovely property surrounded by tranquil gardens along with two outdoor swimming pools, perfect to relax and admire the vistas. The hotel boasts large modern rooms all with stunning views of the hotel's grounds. The hotel has two delicious on-site restaurants along with a cake shop and bakery for a little sweet treat. The Ramada Plaza also features a shopping arcade, great for any last minute gifts.

Local rating: ★★★★★

Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

CHOOSE YOUR AIRLINE & STOPOVER

On holidays to Australia, New Zealand and India

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 on your way to Australia and New Zealand, 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 inbound stopover options can be found on pages 130 - 131 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 for Australia and New Zealand holidays. Please call one of our travel experts on 01695 577 961 for more details.



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.

Tour	Airline	Choose your UK airport	Choose your outbound stopover (included in price)	Choose your inbound stopover (additional cost)
Wonders of Australia	Emirates QANTAS Spirit of Australia	London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore or Dubai	Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Dubai or Bali
The Very Best of Australia	Emirates QANTAS Spirit of Australia	London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore, Dubai or Perth	Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Dubai or Bali
Icons of Australia	Emirates QANTAS Spirit of Australia	London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore, Dubai or Perth	Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Dubai or Bali
Magnificent New Zealand & The Very Best of New Zealand	Emirates QANTAS Spirit of Australia	London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai	Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Dubai, Sydney or Bali
Magnificent New Zealand & The Very Best of New Zealand	SINGAPORE AIRLINES	London Heathrow	Singapore	Singapore
Highlights of Australia and New Zealand	Emirates QANTAS Spirit of Australia	London Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow	Singapore, Bangkok or Dubai	Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Dubai or Bali
The Golden Triangle and Ranthambore and A Journey Through India	Emirates	London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Birmingham, Manchester or Glasgow	Not available	Dubai Jumeirah Beach
The Golden Triangle and Ranthambore and A Journey Through India	virgin atlantic	London Heathrow	Not available	Not available

CHOOSE YOUR STOPOVER

Singapore • Hong Kong • Dubai • Bangkok • Sydney • Bali



SINGAPORE

Copthorne Kings Hotel

Singapore is 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 Copthorne Kings Hotel on tours to Australia and New Zealand, except for the Icons of Australia tour, which will stay at the Four Points by Sheraton.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £245pp
Single room price £385



SINGAPORE

Four Points by Sheraton 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 Four Points by Sheraton Hotel on the Icons of Australia tour. This hotel may only be used for an optional inbound stopover on the Icons of Australia tour.

Optional inbound stopover
Two nights for only £295pp
Single room price £395



BANGKOK

Amari Watergate 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 Amari Watergate Hotel on the Magnificent New Zealand, Very Best of New Zealand and the Highlights of Australia & New Zealand tours.

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



SYDNEY

North Sydney Harbourview Hotel

One of the most famous cities in the world, Sydney needs little introduction. Here's your chance to explore all the wonderful attractions, iconic landmarks and world-class culture that Sydney has to offer.

Distant Journeys includes the option of a three night inbound stopover at the four star North Sydney Harbourview Hotel on both the Magnificent New Zealand and the Very Best of New Zealand tours. As the name suggests, the hotel offers stunning views of Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Optional inbound stopover
Three nights for only £495pp
Single room price £645

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



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 situated on the Kowloon Peninsula - which offers a wide array of shopping and dining opportunities.

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



DUBAI

Marriott al Jaddaf

Marvel at the incredible skyline that has risen so rapidly from the desert over the past couple of decades. Dubai 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.



BALI

Meliá Hotel

The name Bali conjures up thoughts of an exotic tropical paradise, and the reality is every bit as wonderful. Swaying palm trees, white sand beaches and the warm hospitality of the Balinese people await you on this relaxing stopover.

Distant Journeys provides the option of a three night inbound stopover at the Meliá Hotel in Nusa Dua, Bali. The hotel is an oasis of calm surrounded by lush gardens, boasts five restaurants and its own private stretch of beach. Service with a smile comes as standard.

Optional inbound stopover
Three nights for only £395pp
Single room price £645

Please note that dependent on your particular tour, additional nights in Australia or New Zealand may be required before flying to Bali.



DUBAI

Sheraton Jumeirah Beach

What better way could there be to ease away any travel weariness than with a stopover in Dubai? The white sands of Jumeirah Beach stretch along the coast south of Dubai's historic centre, and the glittering attractions of The Palm, Dubai Marina and the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa, are all close at hand.

Distant Journeys offers an optional three night inbound stopover at the four star Sheraton Jumeirah Beach Hotel following either of our India tours.

Optional inbound stopover
Three nights for only £395pp
Single room price £595

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

OUR PARTNER AIRLINES

Fly with award-winning scheduled airlines

Distant Journeys 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. Furthermore, 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.

For our new destination, India, you will have the option to fly direct to / from Delhi with Virgin Atlantic from London Heathrow. Alternatively, you may choose to fly with Emirates from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham or Glasgow (all via Dubai) at no extra cost.



Business Class

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 £1,695pp 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, up to 78" in length (dependent on aircraft type)
- 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



Business Class

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 20.5", 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 £3,495pp 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 up to 80" (seat style and sizes differ on different aircraft types)
- 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



Business Class

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)

- A seat that transforms into a lie flat, extra-long bed with an increased seat pitch of up to 73" (dependent on aircraft type)
- 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

International Business Class

(from £3,295pp 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" (dependent on aircraft type)
- 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



Business Class

International Economy Class

(included in your holiday price)

- Typical seat pitch of 32"
- 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 £3,495pp supplement for a return trip to Australasia)

- Complimentary chauffeur drive*
- A seat that transforms into a fully flat, extra-long bed with an increased seat pitch up to 79" (dependent on aircraft type)
- 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 large 12 - 23" 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



Upper Class

International Economy Class

(included in your holiday price)

- Typical seat pitch of up to 31"
- Your personal seatback screen with hours of award-winning entertainment, including blockbuster movies, top comedies and dramas, plus the exclusive Virgin travel guide
- Watch TV from the moment you step onboard, right up until you reach the gate at your destination
- Free amenity kit containing all the essentials - so you can relax in your seat and make yourself comfortable
- Good quality food, using simple, seasonal ingredients

International Premium Economy Class

(from £745pp supplement for a return trip)

- A spacious 38" seat pitch with leather seat, along with headrest, foot rest and lumbar support
- Dedicated check-in area at the airport
- Priority boarding on the aircraft
- Enjoy a complimentary glass of welcome bubbly or juice before take-off
- Perfectly designed menu served on china with a linen tablecloth
- Choose from a selection of great wines to complement your dinner

International Upper (Business) Class

(from £1,545pp supplement for a return trip)

- Dedicated check in area through the upper class wing
- Fast track security channels meaning no long queues
- Access to Virgin Clubhouse prior to your journey, with complimentary menu or a complimentary treatment in the Clubhouse Spa
- Seat extends fully flat to a length of 6' 6"
- Enjoy customised menus offering you a wide range of elegant dining options

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 to Perth or with a stopover in 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 INFORMATION

A quick information guide from Distant Journeys



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.

The Indian Climate is very hot and humid during the summer months, with most of the country's rain falling between July and September. Between October and March the days tend to be mild and sunny with comfortable cool 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, South Africa and India is generally relaxed and informal during the day, dressing to suit the weather conditions and the activity you are undertaking. It is worth noting that India has a relatively modest culture and it is recommended that arms and legs are covered especially when entering sacred places, for example temples. Women may also wish to take a shawl to cover their shoulders when visiting temples and all visitors should wear long trousers, skirts or shorts that reach below the knee.

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.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-passport-office

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. When travelling to India, your passport should have at least two blank pages when you present it at immigration to enter India.

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 2017), 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 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\$50 per person. 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 a day trip to Chobe National Park in nearby Botswana, there are currently no charges, but this may change in future. British and Irish Citizens travelling to India will be required to obtain an e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) before travelling. You can find more information about the eligibility criteria for the e-visa and apply online on the government of India's e-Tourist Visa website <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html> The cost of this visa is currently (September 2017) USD75 per person. For simplicity, you may prefer to use a visa agency to obtain your visa. We recommend a company called VisaHQ. Please call for details.

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 we visit are malaria-free. However, some of the areas we visit may pose a low malaria risk. 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.

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 Defacto, 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.

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, Indian Pacific & Milford Mariner

Due to space restrictions on The Ghan and Indian Pacific, 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. On Milford Mariner, you may take your full luggage, but as cabin space is quite tight we recommend taking an overnight bag and leaving the remainder of your luggage safely locked in the coach.

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 cannot 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 unless you feel you have had a great service. In Indian and 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 in South Africa and 50 Rupees in India. 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 a minimum of £2 per person per touring day, dependent on your level of satisfaction.

Freedom Days

During your tour, you can book onto a range of additional excursions and activities through your Coach Captain / Tour Manager. These 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 on the Freedom Day experiences 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



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

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. In India it is the Indian Rupee. The currencies for stopover destinations vary, please check the best currency for your destination before departure. For small purchases, local currency is advantageous. In India, cash withdrawals are limited to R10,000 per day so it may be advantageous to take sterling and exchange this for Rupees at a local currency exchange. Many locations accept major credit cards. Cash machines are located at many stops. When travelling to Australia, New Zealand or South Africa, 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.

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

- All bookings are made pursuant to these terms and conditions.
- 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 New Zealand tours is unable to accommodate wheelchair bound passengers. Passengers with disabilities or walking difficulties may find access to certain attractions restricted, due to the number of stairs, distance or uneven ground.

- 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.
- If you are a single passenger, the applicable single supplement will be added to your invoice at the time of your booking.
- We will aim to accommodate single passengers in twin or double rooms, with single occupancy
- For reservations which include The Ghan or Indian Pacific single passengers will be accommodated in single berth sleeper cabins with wash basin. Showers and toilets are available at the end of each compartment.
- 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

- 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. Where fares are higher than our standard rates, an additional deposit may be required. 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.
- 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.
- 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

- There are no surcharges for payments by credit or debit cards.

Your contract

- 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.
- 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?

- (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

- 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

- 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

- The features of the tour are set out in the tour brochure.
- 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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).
- 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.
- 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.

- 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

- 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 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.
- 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

- 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).
- 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.
- 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.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - 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

BOOKING CONDITIONS

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.

- 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.
- 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

- 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.
- 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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

- 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.
- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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 Captain (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

- 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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.

- 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).
- 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.

Your Financial Protection

- 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.

Passports and Visas

- 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 requested, 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.

e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) - India

British and Irish citizens are required to obtain an e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) prior to travelling to India. It is your responsibility to check if you are eligible for the e-TV before you apply. If you don't hold a full British or Irish passport, you may require a full visa and will need to contact the Indian Embassy. All costs incurred in obtaining the visa must be paid by you.

- 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.
- Information on health is contained in the Department of Health leaflet T71 (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.

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Coaches

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

Clothing

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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

- 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

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

distantjourneys

Leisurely and flexible guiding touring

BOOK NOW

Call our travel
experts on:
01695 577 961

Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk
Visit: www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Opening hours:
Monday - Friday: 9am - 5.30pm
Saturday: 9am - 5.00pm

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