



Christmas & New Year in Australia

27 days from only £7,995 per person

Celebrate this very special time of year in a country known for its year-round sunshine, on Distant Journeys' 27-day Christmas & New Year in Australia tour.

Escape the darkness of the UK's midwinter and enjoy Christmas Aussie style, where barramundi and barbecues replace turkey and tinsel, then be among the first people to greet the dawning of a New Year at the heart of a world-famous celebration.

This itinerary, crossing 2023 and 2024, has been designed to not only include all of Australia's incredible highlights such as its great waterside cities, the Great Barrier Reef and Uluru, but also some hidden gems like the amazing wildlife of Kangaroo Island.

It goes without saying that both Christmas and New Year will be celebrated in style. Christmas will be spent in the lush tropical surroundings of Cairns, and on New Year's Eve we will experience Sydney's world-renowned firework celebration from the convenience of our luxury vessel anchored in a prime position in Sydney Harbour!



Your holiday includes

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights
- Fly with Qantas & Emirates from London Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow
- All domestic flights within Australia
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Choice of outbound stopover

- Two-night outbound stopover. Choose from Singapore or Dubai
- Alternatively, spend two extra nights in Perth at the beginning of your tour

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior and first class hotels in great locations
- All hotel portorage
- Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- Daily breakfast, worth £482 per person
- Picnic lunch on Kangaroo Island
- Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef

Incredible festive highlights

- Celebratory Christmas dinner and drinks
- New Year's Eve dinner cruise, worth £706 per person

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Singapore (or Dubai), Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Alice Springs and Sydney
- Full day touring Kangaroo Island
- Experience Uluru at sunset and sunrise
- Full day excursion to the Great Barrier Reef

On the ground

- Services of an experienced local Tour Manager
- All overseas transfers
- Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

100% confidence

- Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise*
- Your holiday is covered by our Covid Guarantee*
- Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 132-135.



Rottnest Island



Fairy Penguin, Phillip Island



Uluru

Christmas & New Year in Australia

8th to 27th Dec: UK - Singapore - Perth - Kangaroo Island - Adelaide - Melbourne - Alice Springs - Uluru - Cairns

Friday 8th Dec: Depart the UK

Fly with Qantas & Emirates from Birmingham, Glasgow, London Heathrow, Manchester or Newcastle at no extra cost. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Saturday 9th Dec: Singapore, 2 nights

Arrive into the island city of Singapore and transfer to the four-star M Hotel Singapore. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative stopovers: Dubai or Perth

We have based days 2-4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Should you prefer, you may choose to stop in Dubai or spend two extra nights in Perth for the same price. Your stopover includes transfers, accommodation, daily breakfast, and if choosing Dubai a city sightseeing tour. Flight timings will vary. Please speak with one of our personal travel experts for more details.

Sunday 10th Dec: Singapore

This morning we head out on a sightseeing tour taking in the main highlights of the city, such as Merlion Park, various ethnic quarters including Little India and Chinatown, and the beautiful Botanical Gardens - the first and only tropical botanic gardens on UNESCO's World Heritage list. Afternoon at leisure. **Breakfast included**

Monday 11th Dec: Perth, 3 nights

A day free to spend as we please in Singapore until it's time to head to the airport for our evening flight. Recommended excursions in Singapore include a visit to the Gardens by the Bay or a trip to nearby Sentosa Island. On arrival in Perth, our Tour Manager will greet us and we shall transfer to the Pan Pacific Hotel. **Breakfast, in-flight meals and drinks included**

Tuesday 12th Dec: Perth

Our sightseeing tour begins in King's Park, boasting some 400 hectares of bushland and pretty wildflowers, and offering stunning views over the city's skyline. Next, we travel to the nearby port town of Fremantle to visit the fascinating Shipwreck Galleries and enjoy a gentle cruise along the Swan River returning to the city centre. **Breakfast included**

Wednesday 13th Dec: Perth Freedom Day

Today is our first Freedom Day in Australia, and we can spend the day however we please. Optional tours include an excursion to Nambung National Park, home to hundreds of striking limestone pillars known as the Pinnacles. Alternatively, you can take a trip to Rottnest Island, a protected nature reserve with a coastline of hidden coves and white sandy beaches, and the only place in the world to see Quokka in their natural habitat. **Breakfast included**

Thursday 14th Dec: Kangaroo Island, 2 nights

We fly to Adelaide and continue by coach to the Fleurieu Peninsula, from where we board a ferry to Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island. Our home for the next two nights is the Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge Hotel. **Breakfast included**

Friday 15th Dec: Kangaroo Island Tour Highlight

Our full day tour on Kangaroo Island starts with a visit to Seal Bay Conservation Park where we will walk amidst a colony of rare Australian sea lions. Later we visit Flinders Chase National Park, home to some of Australia's best-known native wildlife including wallabies, echidnas, koalas and the kangaroos which give the island its name. We'll also take in some incredible scenery at the Remarkable Rocks. **Breakfast and picnic lunch included**

Saturday 16th Dec: Adelaide, 2 nights

We make our way back to the mainland by ferry and visit the quaint village of Hahndorf, Australia's oldest surviving German settlement. Later, we arrive into Adelaide and the Crowne Plaza Hotel, perfectly located in the city centre. **Breakfast included**

Sunday 17th Dec: Adelaide Freedom Day

Today's Freedom Day may be spent as we please. Lovers of good wine can take an optional tour to the vineyards of the Barossa Valley, with several tastings included. **Breakfast included**

Monday 18th Dec: Melbourne, 3 nights

A short morning flight to Melbourne, where we enjoy a city sightseeing tour including the Melbourne Cricket Ground, Treasury Gardens, Victoria Markets, the Rod Laver Arena and Federation Square. Our hotel for the next three nights is the four-star Pullman on the Park. **Breakfast included**

Tuesday 19th Dec: Melbourne Freedom Day

A Freedom Day in Melbourne. Perhaps consider an optional trip to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Fairy Penguins, to view the Penguin Parade. **Breakfast included**

Wednesday 20th Dec: Melbourne Freedom Day

Today provides an opportunity to take an optional tour along what consistently features in the Top 10 of the world's greatest scenic coastal drives, the Great Ocean Road, to the iconic stone monoliths known as the Twelve Apostles. **Breakfast included**

Thursday 21st Dec: Alice Springs, 2 nights

We fly to Alice Springs, in Australia's Red Centre. On arrival, we enjoy a sightseeing tour, visiting the Old Telegraph Station, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and the School of the Air. Later, we check in to the Crowne Plaza Lasseters Hotel, home for the next two nights. In the evening, there's the opportunity to enjoy an optional Aussie bush barbecue under the desert skies. **Breakfast included**

Friday 22nd Dec: Alice Springs Freedom Day

Our day is free to relax or explore as we wish. A popular excursion is to the Western MacDonnell Ranges; a great opportunity to experience a taste of life in the outback, featuring the stunning scenery of Simpson's Gap and Standley Chasm. **Breakfast included**

Saturday 23rd Dec: Uluru, Overnight Tour Highlight

Today's journey along the Stuart and Lasseter Highways takes us to Uluru. Upon arrival we make our way to the Desert Gardens Hotel. Later, we witness the spectacular sunset over Uluru. **Breakfast included**

Sunday 24th Dec: Cairns, 5 nights

Wake up on a Christmas Eve like no other as early risers have the option of viewing Uluru at sunrise. Later, visit the Kata Tjuta, also known as The Olgas. Our afternoon flight takes us to Cairns, in tropical far North Queensland. The Hilton Cairns will be our home for the next five nights. **Breakfast included**

Monday 25th Dec: Christmas Day, Cairns Tour Highlight

Merry Christmas! Begin the day with a hearty breakfast to set you up for the celebrations ahead. Our day is free to spend as we please, perhaps take a stroll along the Esplanade followed by a picnic on the grass in the sunshine or even a swim in Cairns' lagoon pool. This evening we gather in the hotel to enjoy a celebratory Christmas buffet dinner and drinks with our new-found friends. **Breakfast and dinner, including selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks**

Tuesday 26th Dec: Cairns Freedom Day

A popular optional excursion takes us to Kuranda, the village in the rainforest. Our tour begins with a spectacular journey on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, to Kuranda, where we spend time with the Pamagirri Aboriginal people. We return to Cairns on the unique and historic Kuranda Scenic Railway. **Breakfast included**

Wednesday 27th Dec: Cairns, Great Barrier Reef

Tour Highlight

The Great Barrier Reef is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's most enduring natural wonders. We spend several hours at the Outer Reef as we please; snorkelling in the sheltered coral lagoon, viewing from a glass-bottomed boat, or taking in the sights from a semi-submersible reef viewer. Optional experiences include helicopter flights, guided snorkel safaris and scuba diving. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Cairns



Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, Cairns



New Year's Eve, Sydney Harbour

Christmas & New Year in Australia

28th Dec to 3rd Jan: Cairns - Sydney - UK

Thursday 28th Dec: Cairns Freedom Day

A Freedom Day to perhaps explore the Daintree Rainforest and Cape Tribulation? During the excursion, we see dramatic jungle-clad gorges, wild rivers, and tumbling waterfalls. **Breakfast included**

Friday 29th Dec: Sydney, 4 nights

We fly to Sydney, our final port of call on this wonderful tour of Australia. We stay in the landmark Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, just a short walk from Sydney Harbour and the world-famous Opera House. **Breakfast included**

Saturday 30th Dec: Sydney

Our tour of Sydney includes iconic Bondi Beach, Hyde Park, Parliament House and Mrs Macquarie's Chair - the perfect spot for a photo, with the Opera House and Harbour Bridge behind. **Breakfast included**

Sunday 31st Dec: New Year's Eve, Sydney

Tour Highlight

The eyes of the world fall on Sydney on New Year's Eve, and this evening we are among the privileged few who are at the epicentre of the celebrations. Following a free day to explore as we please, the excitement builds as we make our way to King Street Wharf to board Clearview, our luxury cruise vessel. Enjoy amazing 360-degree views around Sydney Harbour and a prime position for viewing the fireworks. We will be welcomed aboard with a glass of finest Australian sparkling wine, before being served a fabulous dinner. The conversation and the drinks will flow, and after dinner we will be entertained by a live band. As midnight strikes, Sydney's annual firework spectacular bursts into life, and we will truly feel at the heart of the festivities as we view the stunning display from the comfort of our boat. Happy New Year! **Breakfast and celebration dinner including selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks**

Monday 1st Jan: Sydney Freedom Day

Why not clear your head with an optional climb of the Sydney Harbour Bridge or a trip to the Blue Mountains. However you choose to spend your final full day in Sydney, relax and enjoy it as our wonderful tour draws to a close. **Breakfast included**

Tuesday 2nd Jan: Depart Sydney

A day at leisure until our flight departs to our chosen UK airport via Dubai or Singapore. **Breakfast, in-flight meals and drinks included**

Wednesday 3rd Jan: Arrive UK

We arrive into our chosen UK airport. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Why not combine with a tour of New Zealand?



This tour may be combined with our New Zealand by Rail, Road and Sea tour. Please see page 113 for more details.

Departure Dates & Prices

2023 Departures

08 December 2023	£7,995 per person
14 December 2023*	£7,295 per person

* This 21-day itinerary leaves the UK on 14 December 2023, includes a two night stopover in either Singapore or Dubai, and joins the tour in Melbourne on 18 December 2023.

Prices

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

Single occupancy supplement

08 December 2023 £1,845.
14 December 2023 £1,495.

Deposit

£1,000 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,950 per person if travelling Premium Economy, and £3,750 per person for Business Class.

Homebound stopovers

Extend your holiday with a stopover on the return journey. Choose from Singapore, Sentosa Island, Bangkok, Dubai or Bali. Prices from £195 per person.

Stopovers may be on special offer, please call for details.

Flight upgrades

Upgrade to Premium Economy on selected routes from £2,295 per person return. Upgrade to Business Class from £4,995 per person return.

Visa information

An Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) is required to enter Australia. A processing fee of £25 per person will be added to your confirmation invoice.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 132-135.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3745

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.
Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk

