



# Wonders of Australia

22 days from only £6,395 per person

Australia – a land so vast and timeless, where ancient Aboriginal cultures blend with modern life to create one of the most cosmopolitan and friendly nations on earth.

Australia is a country of great contrasts and immense beauty and the Wonders of Australia tour offers a fabulous way to explore this amazing country at a relaxed pace.

From the glitter of Sydney and Melbourne, to the haunting splendour of the outback – we visit all the must-see sights, including four nights in tropical Cairns, the ideal base to visit the Great Barrier Reef.

Including a choice of two night 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 tour will create memories that will last a lifetime.



## 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

### Carefully selected hotels

- Superior and first class hotels in great locations
- Overnight train journey onboard the legendary Ghan
- All hotel portage
- Applicable hotel taxes

### Many meals

- Daily breakfast, worth £387 per person
- Buffet lunch on the Great Barrier Reef
- Lunch cruise around Sydney Harbour

### All-inclusive on The Ghan

- All meals
- Selected alcoholic and soft drinks

### Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Singapore (or Dubai), Melbourne, Adelaide, Alice Springs and Sydney
- Experience Uluru at sunset and sunrise
- Full day excursion to the Great Barrier Reef
- Lunch cruise around Sydney Harbour

### 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.





Puffing Billy



Kangaroo



The Ghan

# Wonders of Australia

Days 1 to 12: UK - Singapore - Melbourne - Adelaide - The Ghan - Alice Springs

## Day 1: Depart UK

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

## Day 2: Singapore, 2 nights

Flights from London Heathrow may travel direct to Singapore. All other UK regional flights will travel via Dubai. Arrive into the wonderful city of Singapore and transfer to the four star M Hotel Singapore. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

### Alternative stopover: Dubai

We have based days 2-4 of this itinerary on a stopover in Singapore. Should you prefer, you may choose to stop in Dubai for the same price. Your stopover includes transfers, accommodation, daily breakfast and a city sightseeing tour. Flight timings will 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 the city. Included is a stop at Merlion Park with its 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 savour a Singapore Sling in the world-renowned Long Bar or discover the wonderful Gardens by the Bay. **Breakfast, in-flight meals and drinks included**

## Day 5: Melbourne, 3 nights

A morning arrival into Melbourne, where we transfer directly to our hotel, the four star Stamford Plaza, situated in the heart of the city. We have free time to explore the city until our rooms are ready in the afternoon. **Breakfast, in-flight meals and drinks included**

## Day 6: Melbourne

After breakfast, we enjoy a Melbourne city tour. Sights include Treasury Gardens, 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. Our afternoon is at leisure. **Breakfast included**

## Day 7: Melbourne Freedom Day

Today 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, or tour along one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives, the internationally renowned Great Ocean Road. **Breakfast included**

## We recommend

### Great Ocean Road

Journey along one of the world's most spectacular coastal roads, the internationally renowned Great Ocean Road.



## 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 Peppers Waymouth Hotel for our next two nights. **Breakfast included**

## Day 9: Adelaide Freedom Day

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

## Day 10: The Ghan, Overnight Tour Highlight

A morning at leisure until we 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 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 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 Crowne Plaza Lasseters Hotel. Lasseters Hotel. In the evening, we highly recommend joining an outback bush barbecue. **Breakfast included**

## Day 12: 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**





Uluru



Great Barrier Reef



Daintree River

# Wonders of Australia

Days 13 to 20: Uluru - Cairns - Great Barrier Reef - Sydney

## Day 13: Uluru, Overnight Tour Highlight

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**

## 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 perfectly located Cairns Hilton, which will be our home for the next four nights. **Breakfast included**

## Day 15: Great Barrier Reef Tour Highlight

A holiday to Australia would not be complete without a visit to the Great Barrier Reef. Its colourful marine life and coral make this World Heritage site a must see for all visitors. Our day begins when we board our high-speed catamaran and journey to a 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 glass-bottomed boat. With four hours at the reef there is plenty of time to do it all. For the more adventurous, there are several 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. We ascend to Kuranda by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, a beautiful experience gliding over the rainforest canopy. 'The village in the rainforest' Kuranda awaits. It's a lovely place to while away a few hours visiting the markets, butterfly sanctuary or the Koala Gardens. We continue our adventure with a visit to Rainforest Station, where we spend time with the Pamagirri Aboriginal people and learn about one of the oldest surviving cultures in the world. Travel back to Cairns on one of the most unique rail journeys in Australia, the Kuranda Scenic Railway. During our journey we encounter no fewer than 40 bridges and 15 tunnels as we make our way to Cairns. **Breakfast included**

## We recommend

### Kuranda Railway & Skyrail

A journey to Kuranda by the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, returning on the Kuranda Scenic Rail journey.



## Day 17: Cairns Freedom Day

Another Freedom Day to enjoy 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 the rainforest's unique flora and fauna, including a visit to beautiful Mossman Gorge 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. 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 dining venues, endless shopping opportunities and a vibrant culture and it's very easy to understand why Sydney is one of the world's favourite cities. Upon arrival we head to the four-star Mantra 2 Bond Street, superbly located in the heart of Sydney's main attractions. **Breakfast included**

## Day 19: Sydney Tour Highlight

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







Sydney



Sentosa Island



Dubai

## Wonders of Australia

Days 21 to 22: Sydney - UK

### Day 21: Depart Sydney

The day is ours until it's time to depart for the airport. Our flights to our chosen UK airport operate via Dubai or Singapore, where there will be a change of aircraft. **Breakfast, 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 one of our New Zealand tours makes perfect sense.

Please see pages 106-115 for more details.

## Homebound Stopovers from only £195 per person

Why not extend your holiday with a stopover on your homeward journey? Choose from Singapore, Sentosa Island or Bangkok, a beach stay in Bali or a stop in fashionable Dubai. Your stopover includes return airport transfers, accommodation and daily breakfast.

### Dubai - Two nights from £345 per person

The magic, mystery and traditions of Arabia, combined with an ambitious futuristic vision.

### Bangkok - Two nights from £195 per person

Glittering temples, diverse and wonderful cuisine and graceful service with a smile.

### Singapore - Two nights from £295 per person

A perfect blend of ancient eastern and modern western cultures.

### Sentosa Island - Two nights from £495 per person

A relaxing sanctuary or fun-filled adventure, only 20 minutes from Singapore.

### Bali - Three nights from £495 per person

A truly relaxing stopover on the white sands of the hotel's private beach.

Please see pages 126-127 for more details on homebound stopovers.



### 2023 Departures

06 October 2023 **£6,645** per person

10 November 2023 **£6,645** per person

### 2024 Departures

08 March 2024 **£6,645** per person

05 April 2024 **£6,395** per person

26 July 2024 **£6,945** per person

### Prices

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

**Single occupancy supplement**  
£1,245.

### 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. 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

