



# australia & new zealand

Australia and New Zealand, whilst fiercely independent and proud of their individual heritage, share a surprising number of similarities. Whether it be their indigenous tribal and colonial history or their spectacular and diverse landscapes, individually or together these fascinating countries have much to offer the visitor.

With an enviable climate, a diverse and beautiful landscape, and iconic natural and man-made sights, Australia is one of the most attractive destinations in the southern hemisphere. There is something here for everyone - the stunningly beautiful islands and marine life of the Great Barrier Reef; the desolate but breathtaking landscape of Uluru (Ayers Rock); the forested canyons of the Blue Mountains and pristine rainforest of the north; prolific wildlife and birds; the deserted outback with its indigenous Aboriginal population; magnificent white sand beaches, and vibrant cosmopolitan cities such as Perth, Melbourne and Sydney with its iconic sights. With first-rate transportation and accommodation, there has never been a better time to visit Australia.

Though much smaller than its neighbour, New Zealand is every bit as rewarding, and its sheer natural beauty will mesmerize visitors. The breadth of scenery is astounding - the picturesque Bay of Islands; the pristine bush and beaches of the Coromandel Peninsula; the crystal waters of Lake Taupo; Rotorua, heart of Maori culture and spectacular geo-thermal activity; the renowned vineyards of Hawkes Bay; the sunsets in the Abel Tasman National Park; whale watching from Kaikoura; the lakes and majestic peaks of the Southern Alps and the breathtaking fjord at Milford Sound. The outgoing and welcoming people, and an endearing old-world charm make New Zealand a very attractive destination.



## TRAVEL GUIDE

### VISA REQUIREMENTS

UK Passport holders do currently require a visa for Australia but not for New Zealand. Non British Passport holders should check requirements.

### HEALTH ADVICE

No vaccinations are currently required for these countries.

### FLYING TIME

Perth 18hrs 35mins  
 Adelaide 22hrs 45mins  
 Melbourne 21hrs 40mins  
 Sydney 21hrs 20mins  
 Brisbane 22hrs 35mins  
 Cairns 25hrs  
 Darwin 20hrs 30mins  
 Auckland 24hrs 40mins  
 Christchurch 23hrs 35mins

### LOCAL TIME

Australia West GMT + 8hrs  
 Australia North & South GMT + 9.5hrs  
 Australia East GMT + 10hrs  
 New Zealand GMT + 12hrs

### WHEN TO VISIT

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Australia	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓
New Zealand	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓

✓✓ indicates the optimum time to visit



## Ultimate Australia

### A Journey of Discovery

This comprehensive introduction to Australia, encompasses some of the country's most iconic sights and spectacular natural wonders.

You begin in Melbourne, the artistic and cultural heart of Australia, before flying to Hobart on the island of Tasmania to explore the island's historic towns and the wilderness of Cradle Mountain National Park with its abundant wildlife, flora and fauna. Fly on to Sydney with its iconic harbour, bridge and Opera House, before driving west to the forested canyons and waterfalls of the beautiful Blue Mountains. Fly north-west to the spectacular Ayers Rock (Uluru), before ending this journey of discovery in Port Douglas - the perfect base from which to explore the remarkable tropical rainforests of northern Queensland and the spectacular marine life and underwater treasure trove of the Great Barrier Reef.

#### Sample itinerary:

**Day 1/2:** Depart London. **3/4:** Arrive Melbourne. Overnights The Lyall. **5/6:** Fly to Hobart. Overnights Henry Jones Art Hotel. **7:** Drive to Strahan. Overnight Ormiston House. **8/9:** Drive to Cradle Mountain National Park. Overnights Cradle Mountain Lodge. **10:** Drive to Launceston. Overnight Pepper's Seaport Hotel. **11/13:** Fly to Sydney. Overnights Shangri La Hotel. **14:** Drive to Blue Mountains. Overnight Lillianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa. **15/16:** Fly to Ayers Rock. Overnights Desert Gardens. **17/20:** Fly to Cairns and drive to Port Douglas. Overnights The Peninsula. **21/22:** Fly to London via Brisbane.

**Dates:** To suit individual requirements.

**Price:** From £3,295 per person (based on 2 people travelling)



## Australia Explorer

### Life in the wild

A fascinating 'off the beaten track' journey incorporating some of Australia's lesser-known natural wonders and sights, and an insight into life in the wild.

The journey begins on the outstandingly beautiful Kangaroo Island in the Southern Ocean before staying at two historic homesteads, one in the Clare Valley on the edge of the outback and the other in the spectacular landscape of the Flinders Ranges. You then fly north to an exclusive bush camp in the remote wilderness of Bamurru Plains with its profusion of birds and wildlife, before exploring the resurrected northern city of Darwin. Fly east to Queensland and the picturesque resort of Port Douglas, the ideal base to explore the northern rainforests, before spending a few days on Lizard Island on the magnificent Great Barrier Reef. This amazing journey ends, in complete contrast, with a brief stay in the vibrant city of Sydney.

#### Sample itinerary:

**Day 1/2:** Depart London. **3/5:** Arrive Adelaide. Fly to Kangaroo Island. Overnights Southern Ocean Lodge. **6:** Fly to Adelaide. Drive to the Clare Valley. Overnight North Bundaleer. **7/8:** Drive to the Flinders Ranges. Overnights Arkaba Station. **9:** Drive to Adelaide. Overnight The Hyatt Regency. **10/11:** Fly to Bamurru Plains via Darwin. Overnights Bamurru Plains. **12:** Fly to Darwin. Overnight Mantra on the Esplanade. **13/14:** Fly to Cairns. Transfer to Port Douglas. Overnights Thala Beach. **15/17:** Fly to Lizard Island. Overnights Lizard Island. **18/20:** Fly to Sydney. Overnights Park Hyatt. **21/22:** Fly to London.

**Dates:** To suit individual requirements.

**Price:** From £8,735 per person (based on 2 people travelling)

## themes of australia



### Cities

Australia's major cities, where the majority of the population live, embody Australian culture and lifestyle. Not only are they the country's important commercial centres, but also a showcase for the nation's multicultural society, the arts, architecture, style, cuisine and the uninhibited, free-spirited aspirations of the people.

With excellent air connections, Australia's cities are easily accessible. For example: Sydney with its iconic harbour and opera house; Cairns, gateway to Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef; Melbourne, a centre of culture and sport; the beautiful city of Perth; cosmopolitan Darwin and remote Alice Springs in the Northern Territory and Adelaide, renowned for its festivals and nearby vineyards. A wide and varied choice.



### The Outback

The outback is Australia's heartland. It is characterised not only by its spectacular multicoloured vistas, and the remote rugged beauty of its dramatic landscapes and iconic natural wonders, but also by its rich Aboriginal culture and the spirit and resilience of its colourful inhabitants, their distant communities and unique lifestyle.

The easiest way to explore just a part of the outback is from the famed outpost of Alice Springs. From here, you can reach such spectacular sights as Uluru (Ayer's Rock), and immerse yourself in the very essence of the outback – sleep under the stars in a swag, learn about Aboriginal culture, visit traditional 'pubs' or vast cattle stations, and meet the people that make this uniquely Australian landscape what it is.



### The Coast

With over 21,000 miles of coastline, it is understandable that this plays a large part in the lives of Australians. It is not just about beaches and surfing, but more a way of living. It is to the coast that people come to relax, meet family and friends, play sport or simply enjoy a picnic.

Apart from some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, Australia also has nine coastal World Heritage Sites, the most famous of which is the Great Barrier Reef. Stretching over 1,600 miles, the reef has some 900 islands some of which have been developed as luxury resorts – the ideal base from which to explore the marine treasures of this magnificent natural phenomenon.



### Nature & Wildlife

Australia is blessed with great natural beauty, both in the diversity of its spectacular and varied landscapes, and its distinctive flora and intriguing wildlife that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Fortunately, much of this has been carefully protected and is easily accessible to the visitor.

The most important of these sites include: the rugged escarpments, savannah and mangroves of the Kakadu National Park; the breathtaking snow-capped Australian Alps; the flora and fauna in the rainforests of the Green Cauldron; the ancient Flinders Mountain Range; the cliffs, forested canyons and waterfalls of the Blue Mountains, and the exceptional wildlife and plants of Queensland's rainforests.



## Ultimate New Zealand

A journey of discovery

This Ultimate journey is the perfect introduction to New Zealand, a country blessed with astonishing natural beauty and a charm so often missing in today's world.

You begin on the North Island at the beautiful Bay of Islands – a subtropical paradise of islands, secluded bays and abundant marine life, before driving south to Roturua, the heart of New Zealand's Maori culture and thermal activity with its geysers, steaming lakes and bubbling mud pools. You continue to the wine growing region at Hawkes Bay before staying on a working farm overlooking Palliser Bay. You then cross to the South Island to visit the wine growing region of Blenheim and, after a stay in the charming garden city of Christchurch, this illuminating journey ends in Queenstown, which lies in a true 'alpine' paradise on the shores of Lake Wakatipu surrounded by the majestic peaks of the Southern Alps and close to the stunning Milford Sound.

### Sample itinerary:

**Day 1/2:** Depart London. **3:** Arrive Auckland. Overnight Mollies. **4/6:** Fly to Bay of Islands. Overnights The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs. **7/8:** Fly to Roturua via Auckland. Overnights Treetops Lodge & Estate. **9/10:** Drive to Hawkes Bay. Overnights Green Hill Lodge. **11/12:** Drive to Palliser Bay. Overnights Wharekauhau Country Estate. **13/14:** Drive to Wellington. Ferry to Picton. Drive to Blenheim. Overnights Timara Lodge. **15/16:** Drive to Christchurch. Overnights Otahuna Lodge. **17/18:** Fly to Queenstown. Overnights Eichardt's Private Hotel. **19/20:** Drive to Glenorchy. Overnights Blanket Bay. **21/22:** Fly to London via Auckland.

**Dates:** To suit individual requirements.

**Price:** From £6,980 per person (based on 2 people travelling)



## New Zealand Explorer

Natural Wonders of the North and South

A delightful tour, staying at very special small family run hotels and guest houses, which explores just some of New Zealand's magnificent natural wonders.

After a night in Auckland, take the ferry to Waiheke Island, a tropical paradise in the Hauraki Gulf renowned for its beaches and wineries. Fly to the Bay of Islands with its myriad tropical islands and its crystal waters. Fly on to Taupo to explore its lakes and colourful volcanic landscape. You then fly to Nelson on the South Island, where you can explore and hike in the coastal Abel Tasman National Park. Drive down the east coast to view whale, dolphin and seal offshore at Kaikoura, and on to Waipara to stay at a wonderful lodge with its own private nature reserve of spectacular rock formations and prolific flora and fauna. Continue to Akoara, a very picturesque former French whaling outpost, before your odyssey ends in the 'alpine' resort of Queenstown to explore the magnificent natural wonders of the surrounding peaks, Lake Wakatipu, Milford Sound and the Dart River.

### Sample itinerary:

**Day 1/2:** Depart London. **3:** Arrive Auckland. Overnight Hotel de Brett. **4/5:** Ferry to Waiheke Island. Overnights The Boatshed. **6/8:** Ferry to Auckland. Fly to Bay of Islands. Overnights Cavelli Beach House Resort. **9/10:** Fly to Taupo via Auckland. Overnights Acacia Cliffs Lodge. **11/12:** Fly to Nelson via Auckland. Overnights Eden House. **13/14:** Drive to Waipara via Kaikoura. Overnights Claremont Country Estate. **15/16:** Drive to Akoara via Christchurch. Overnights Maison de la Mer. **17/19:** Drive to Christchurch. Fly to Queenstown. Overnights The Spire. **20/21:** Fly to London via Auckland.

**Dates:** To suit individual requirements.

**Price:** From £4,495 per person (based on 2 people travelling)

## select hotels & lodges of new zealand



### The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs, Matauri Bay

Set on high cliffs above three pristine beaches on an unspoiled peninsula in the far north of New Zealand, The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs is one of the southern hemisphere's premier gold resorts. This luxurious plantation-style lodge overlooks a championship course, and enjoys spectacular 180-degree views of the Pacific Ocean.

The 22 spacious suites are housed in 11 delightful outlying cottages. Each is stylishly appointed, providing great comfort along with magnificent views. There is a beautiful dining room with outdoor decks overlooking the ocean, attractive living rooms and an excellent spa and gym. Activities include golf, game fishing, scuba diving and snorkelling, sailing, sea kayaking, hunting for boar and local excursions.



### Huka Lodge, Taupo

Nestling in 17 acres of lush grounds near Taupo in New Zealand's central North Island, Huka Lodge is considered to be one of the world's top retreats. Founded in the 1920s, this iconic luxury lodge offers an elegant and welcoming haven where guests enjoy the highest standards of comfort and hospitality in beautiful surroundings.

Set amongst trees close to the Waikato River, the 20 Lodge Rooms are spacious, light and secluded, providing every comfort. There is also a luxurious 4-bedroom Owners Cottage. The lodge also offers indoor / outdoor fine dining and attractive living rooms and terraces. A variety of activities include golf, tennis, water sports at Lake Taupo, adventure excursions, riding, fishing, kayaking and day tours further afield.



### The Farm at Cape Kidnappers

The Farm at Cape Kidnappers is located amongst the rich vineyards and pastures of Hawke's Bay, on some of the most dramatic coastline to be found in New Zealand. The Lodge, which resembles a cluster of farm buildings, offers a high degree of comfort and facilities in beautiful rural surroundings.

The 22 cottage suites and luxurious Owner's Cottage are light, spacious and beautifully decorated with unexpected treasures. Each has stunning views of the Pacific. There are two dining rooms, a covered loggia, intimate living areas, a luxury spa and heated outdoor pool. Activities include a world class golf course on site, hiking, bird watching, farm tours, wine tours, fly fishing, riding and river kayaking



### Blanket Bay, Glenorchy

Set in 60,000 acres just outside Glenorchy at the head of Lake Wakatipu, Blanket Bay is a luxurious retreat in some of the most beautiful landscape imaginable. Built in the grand style of the finest alpine lodge and finished with native timber and stone, the Lodge is a haven of comfort and peace.

The 12 suites and bedrooms are spacious, well-appointed and elegantly decorated, all with stunning views over the lake and the Humbolt Mountains. Amenities include a choice of dining, a cosy Den, the Great Room - a spectacular living area, a spa and a heated outdoor pool. Activities such as fly fishing, horse riding, guided walks, jet-boating the Dart River or hiking in the National Parks are available.