

A photograph of the Sydney Opera House at sunset. The sky is a vibrant mix of orange, pink, and purple hues. The iconic white sail-like roof of the opera house is illuminated from within, casting a warm glow onto the surrounding water and the building's base. The water in the foreground reflects the colors of the sky and the lights of the city.

AUSTRALIA

Sydney -Melbourne

& SouthEast

March 12 - 21, 2023
10 Days / 7 Nights



Australia

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ITINERARY

DAY 1	Leave USA for Sydney, Australia
DAY 2	In transit
DAY 3	Arrive in Sydney / Sydney
DAY 4	Sydney sightseeing / Sydney
DAY 5	Blue Mountains Excursion / Sydney
DAY 6	Fly to Melbourne - sightseeing / Melbourne
DAY 7	Koalas & Kangaroos Excursion / Melbourne
DAY 8	Yarra Valley wine tour / Melbourne
DAY 9	Melbourne walking tour / Melbourne
DAY 10	Departure

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Australia Highlights:

- Sydney Opera House tour.
- Sydney Harbor Cruise with lunch.
- Blue Mountains excursion, with world's steepest railway.
- Melbourne; tour local neighborhoods.
- Kangaroos, koalas, wallabies...
- Yarra Valley vineyards.

And more...





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INCLUDED

- 7 Nights hotel accommodation with daily breakfast.**
- 4 lunches and 2 dinners as indicated in the itinerary.**
- Wine tastings in Yarra Valley.**
- English speaking professional tour guides.**
- Transportation with AC vehicles & drivers.**
- Two small bottles of water per person on the bus on touring days.**
- Arrival and departure transfers.**
- All entry fees to places mentioned in the itinerary.**
- Tips for included meals and accommodations.**

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic airfare.**
- Visa fees if applicable.**
- Drinks with included meals, except tea or coffee for breakfast.**
- Gratuities for guides & drivers.**
- Personal expenditures like phone calls, laundry, medical expenses.**
- Travel insurance.**



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SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

Suggested flights are on United Airlines:

12 March Houston to Sydney
UA 101 dep: 9:25 pm / arr: 7:00 am on 14 March

17 March Sydney to Melbourne
TBA

21 March Melbourne to San Francisco
UA 61 dep: 12:00 noon / arr: 8:35 am

21 March San Francisco to Houston
UA 1444 dep: 11:10 am / arr: 5:00 pm

Economy class: \$2387

Premium Economy: \$4083

Business: \$10297

per person, including taxes, surcharges and fees as of May 24, 2022.

Fares may change based on availability.



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ACCOMMODATIONS

Sydney: Shangri-La Hotel Deluxe Darling Harbor Room



Melbourne: Intercontinental - The Rialto Deluxe Room





PROGRAM DETAILS

DAY 1

Sun, March 12 - Leave USA

We will leave USA for Sydney, Australia.

DAY 2

Mon, March 13 - In Transit

DAY 3

Tue, March 14 - Sydney

Upon arrival we will be transferred to our hotel. Rest of the day at leisure.

In the evening we will have dinner at a nice restaurant.

Overnight in Sydney

Meals: D

Sydney truly is one of the most beautiful cities in the world with its spectacular harbor setting, fascinating convict history, bustling downtown area and an exciting blend of architecture, ranging from convict built early colonial style reflecting our heritage, through to the world famous Sydney Opera House.



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DAY 4

Wed, March 15 - Sydney

Today, we will explore Sydney.

Enjoy a highlights tour capturing the history of Sydney, stunning architecture, spectacular harbor views and the world famous Bondi Beach. Pass through the historical Rocks area and Circular Quay as we learn about the history and significance of the area. View the Opera House and the Harbor Bridge from Mrs Macquarie's Chair, a chair specially designed for the governor's wife to look out over the harbor. Travel through Chinatown, Darling Harbour, and the nightlife district of Kings Cross. Travel via Watson Bay and stop at "The Gap", for fantastic views and photo opportunities before arriving at world famous Bondi Beach. Return to the city, passing the exclusive suburbs of Double Bay and Rose Bay.

At noon, we will have a Sydney Harbor cruise with lunch.

After lunch, we will join an exclusive tour of Sydney Opera House.

Overnight in Sydney

Meals: B-L

See inside the world's most recognizable sails at the **Sydney Opera House**. Experience this miracle of architecture and engineering. A work of art that came into existence against impossible odds – to become one of the busiest performing arts centers in the world. Working with a new enriching, interactive audio-visual component where images are projected onto the fabric of the building – the guides will take us on an emotional journey, engrossing us in a story to rival any opera plot with its dramatic twists and turns. Some 1,500 performances, in every genre you can imagine, are staged each year to audiences of around 1.5 million.



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DAY 5

Thu, March 16 - Blue Mountains Excursion

The Blue Mountains, located immediately to the west of the sprawling metropolitan area of Sydney, is one of the most accessible areas of highland natural beauty in New South Wales, Australia. Although not especially high, the Blue Mountains cliffs were sufficiently challenging to prevent European explorers from penetrating the inland of New South Wales from Sydney for some time.

When the Europeans arrived in Australia, the Blue Mountains had already been inhabited for several millennia by the Gundungurra people who are now represented by the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation which is based in Katoomba.

On today's Blue Mountains excursion, we will stop at Featherdale Wildlife Park, where we will have the opportunity to see Australian animals and reptiles, such as crocodiles, kangaroos, goannas and possums. At the Blue Mountains National Park, we will enjoy a stroll through the bush, a visit to historic Katoomba, and have a ride on the world's steepest railway, the Skyway Cable Car or the Scenic Cable Car.

We will see the scenic echo point, and learn about the 'blue haze' effect, giving the region its name. There are excellent photo opportunities of the Three Sisters rock formation, and spectacular views of Jamison and Megalong valleys.

In the evening return to Sydney.

Overnight in Sydney

Meals: B-L

DAY 6

Fri, March 17 - Sydney - Melbourne

We will be transferred to the airport to take our morning flight to Melbourne. Upon arrival, we will be take a half day tour of the city driving by the bustling Central Business District, the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Etihad Stadium. We will stretch our legs at the beautiful Royal Botanic Gardens and take in the modern energy of the city's revitalized Docklands area.

Afternoon at leisure.

We will have a special dinner at a nice restaurant.

Overnight in Melbourne

Meals: B-D

Melbourne, at the head of Port Phillip Bay, is Australia's second largest city and the capital of the south-eastern state of Victoria.

Melbourne is Australia's cultural capital, with Victorian-era architecture, extensive shopping, museums, galleries, theaters, and large parks and gardens.

The settlement of Melbourne commenced in 1835 when settlers from Tasmania "purchased" land on Port Phillip Bay and the Yarra River from the local Aboriginal tribes. The streets of central Melbourne were carefully laid out in 1837, with some streets 30 meters wide. The settlement was named "Melbourne" after William Lamb, 2nd Viscount Melbourne, the British Prime Minister at that time.



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DAY 7

Sat, March 18 - Koalas & Kangaroos Excursion

Imagine seeing a mob of kangaroos bounding right past you and seeing wild Koalas in the forest of a National Park!

This tour is an informative and dramatic introduction to the unique wildlife of Australia. In the company of an expert nature guide we will see mobs of free ranging Eastern-grey kangaroos in a natural bush setting. We will also see and learn about many other Australian animals and birds at Serendip open-range sanctuary on the vast Western Plains near Melbourne.

Enjoy a Bush Lunch with Billy Tea. After lunch we head to a nearby national park to see Koalas in the wild. Our nature guide will share the knowledge of these wonderful pouched animals with you. The Koala Research Project ensures we regularly have multiple sightings of these shy creatures in the wild. At the end of the day the tour we will return to Melbourne.

Guests must be able to walk unassisted at least 1km on uneven dirt surfaces to ensure wildlife sightings. There may be up to 5 walks of this duration during the day.

Overnight in Melbourne

Meals: B-L



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DAY 8

Sun, March 19 - Yarra Valley Wine Tour

We will enjoy ourselves at a winery tour at the Yarra Valley, enjoying tastings and a lunch.

We will also see the lush forests of Dandenong Range, observing native birds.

Late in the afternoon, return to Melbourne.

Overnight in Melbourne

Meals: B-L

The Yarra Valley is the name given to the region surrounding the Yarra River in Victoria, Australia. The river originates approximately 90 kilometers east of the Melbourne central business district and flows towards it and out into Port Phillip Bay.

The Yarra Valley is host to a thriving wine growing industry. The area's relatively cool climate makes it particularly suited to the production of high-quality chardonnay, pinot noir and sparkling wine.

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DAY 9

Mon, March 20 - Melbourne

This morning we will have a half day tour, exploring Melbourne's inner city and local community boroughs with our guide and transportation. Discover vibrant local laneways and elegant 19th Century arcades. Learn of the characters and culture that shaped distinctive local neighborhoods like seaside St. Kilda and bohemian Fitzroy.

And the afternoon will be free to enjoy the city on our own.

Overnight in Melbourne

Meals: B

DAY 10

Tue, March 21 - Departure

We will be transferred to the airport to fly back home.

Contact Us

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