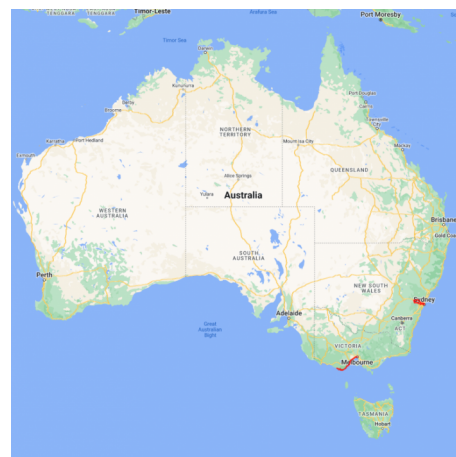


## 12 Days of Quintessential Australia

Embark on an unforgettable 12-day journey through the diverse landscapes of Australia's key destinations, starting with the vibrant cultural tapestry of Melbourne. Immerse yourself in the awe-inspiring beauty of the Great Ocean Road, a scenic marvel leading to the heart of the continent, where the majestic Uluru and Kata Tjuta await exploration. Indulge in moments of relaxation amidst the tropical paradise of Cairns, where the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef beckon. Discover Sydney's iconic landmarks before venturing into the untamed beauty of the Blue Mountains. This carefully crafted itinerary gives varied experiences, blending adventure, culture, and natural wonders to create lasting memories.

Starts in: Melbourne  
Finishes in: Sydney  
Length: 12days / 11nights  
Accommodation: Hotel 4 star  
Can be customised: Yes

This itinerary can be customised to suit you perfectly. We can add more days, remove days, change accommodations, mix it up, add activities to suit your interests or simply design and create something from scratch. Call us today to get your custom New Zealand itinerary underway.



### Inclusions:

Includes: All coach transport  
Includes: Comprehensive tour pack (detailed itinerary, driving, instructions, map/guidebooks, brochures)  
Included activity: Private transfer Melbourne Airport to your accommodation  
Included activity: Blue Mountains Deluxe Day Tour with AEA Luxury Tours  
Included activity: Great Ocean Road Day Tour with Oceania Tours  
Included activity: Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks Pass  
Included activity: Sunset Camel Experience  
Included activity: Reef Cruise and Helicopter Flight with Down Under Cruise & Dive  
Included activity: Private transfer Sydney Airport to your accommodation

Includes: All pick ups/drop offs at destinations  
Includes: 24/7 support while touring in New Zealand

Included activity: Electronic Travel Guide and In-Country Support App

Included activity: Private transfer from accommodation to Sydney Airport

Included activity: Private transfer from accommodation to Melbourne Airport

Included activity: Desert Awakenings Breakfast Voyages Indigenous Tourism

Included activity: Private transfer Cairns Airport to your accommodation

Included activity: Private transfer from accommodation to Cairns Airport

: 11 breakfasts

## Day 1



### Private transfer Melbourne Airport to your accommodation

On arrival, you will be met by a private driver outside customs exit and delivered to your Melbourne accommodation.

### Arrive into Melbourne

Melbourne is the coastal capital of the state of Victoria. At the city's centre is the modern Federation Square development, with shopping, bars, and restaurants by the Yarra River. In the Southbank area, the Melbourne Arts Precinct is the site of Arts Centre Melbourne and the National Gallery of Victoria, with Australian and indigenous art. As the cultural capital of Australia, Melbourne has a hidden gem around every corner - Rich history, bustling laneways, rooftop bars, and world-class restaurants are just the beginning!

### Your accommodation: Vibe Hotel Melbourne

Discover the changing and unchanging face of Melbourne's streetscape with a stay in the heart of the CBD. Vibe Hotel Melbourne dominates the intersection of Melbourne's iconic Flinders and Queen Streets and allows guests to lose themselves in the city's famed laneways and historic arcades – all of which are in striking distance from the hotel.



## Day 2



### Explore Melbourne

Melbourne is the cool, artsy capital of the state of Victoria. Renowned for its laneway art, cafes, bars, restaurants and museums, there is no shortage of things to do, see, eat and drink. Grab a coffee in Degraves Street, see the murals on Hosier Lane or Blender Lane, pop over to St Kilda and stroll along the promenade or visit one of the many museums. For a spot of retail therapy, catch the 86 or 96 tram from the CBD to the bohemian Brunswick Street shopping district for an eclectic mix of second hand vintage and high-end boutique stores. On the opposite side of the city, the Docklands open-air entertainment precinct boasts a myriad of public artwork, family fun activities such as glow in the dark mini golf, and a variety of dining options lining the marina. Get there easily on the free City Circle tram, or wander over the Bourke Street footbridge. To make the most of your time in Melbourne, we recommend taking a city tour to get true local insight into this vibrant city.

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - River Gardens Tour with Melbourne River Cruises

Within moments of Melbourne's cultural Arts precinct, you are cruising through Melbourne's picturesque gardens, parkland's and some of the city's famous sporting arenas.

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Hidden Bars of Melbourne Walking Tour with Depot Adventures

The Melbourne hidden bar culture is a unique part of Australia's cultural capital. The difficult thing is just that – they're hidden! This city makes you work to find its best bits, which is why you'll find some of the best bars behind other venues, underneath laneways, or tucked into repurposed spaces.

Join an experienced guide and uncover four of these fascinating venues in one afternoon, and learn what makes each one special over a drink, or four (at your own expense). Speak with talented bartenders during this small-group experience, making sure to chat with them about what kinds of drinks you like to personalise your Melbourne Hidden Bars Tour even more.

### Your accommodation: Vibe Hotel Melbourne

Discover the changing and unchanging face of Melbourne's streetscape with a stay in the heart of the CBD. Vibe Hotel Melbourne dominates the intersection of Melbourne's iconic Flinders and Queen Streets and allows guests to lose themselves in the city's famed laneways and historic arcades – all of which are in striking distance from the hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast





## Day 3



### Great Ocean Road Day Tour with Oceania Tours

Experience this majestic coastal drive in style with this small group and enjoy time to relax and fully appreciate the wonders of this world-famous touring route. Stay on the lookout for some very special animals including whales, dolphins, echidnas and bandicoots, you'll also be taken to the best hiding spots for koalas and kangaroos in the wild. The first stop will be at Apollo Bay, a tranquil seaside town which is most noteworthy for its setting among the soft rolling hills. It offers a great selection of cafes and restaurants where you can enjoy some lunch (not included). Following this, you will enjoy a walk in the forest in the Otway Ranges. Cap the day off with a visit to the famous 12 Apostles and Loch Ard Gorge.

### Great Ocean Road

The Great Ocean Road is an iconic, must-do route that stretches along the south-eastern coast of Victoria, from famed surf capital Torquay, westward across to Allansford, just before the regional city Warrnambool. The Great Ocean Road tourist drive covers 243 kilometres of National Heritage listed area which hosts an abundance of awe-inspiring natural landscapes including the 12 Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge and London Bridge just to name a few. The road is also shouldered by the Great Otway National Park where you can explore rainforest walks, treetop walkways, waterfalls towering over fern-fringed pools and dramatic cliffs sheltering secluded beaches. Kennett River also hosts a rare opportunity to see koalas living in large numbers in their natural habitat, and is well worth the stop.

### Your accommodation: Vibe Hotel Melbourne

Discover the changing and unchanging face of Melbourne's streetscape with a stay in the heart of the CBD. Vibe Hotel Melbourne dominates the intersection of Melbourne's iconic Flinders and Queen Streets and allows guests to lose themselves in the city's famed laneways and historic arcades – all of which are in striking distance from the hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 4



### Private transfer from accommodation to Melbourne Airport

You will be picked up from your Melbourne accommodation and taken to the Melbourne Airport.

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Own Arrangements Domestic Flight - Melbourne to Yulara (Ayers Rock Airport)

This cost for this flight is additional to your tour, we can book this flight for you.

### Yulara

Yulara is the resort township situated 10 minutes drive from the entry to Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park. This small outpost is the central hub that supports tourism around Uluru, but also helps to protect the fragile ecosystem and spiritual centre of Australia from modern human impact. Yulara hosts approximately 250,000 visitors each year in its range of accommodation ranging from glamping to poolside resorts. Take the opportunity during your visit to walk the path through desert vegetation to Imalung Lookout in the very centre of the village, providing stunning, uninterrupted views of Uluru.

### Transfer from Ayers Rock Airport to Accommodation

On arrival, after collecting your luggage, follow the courtesy hotel transfers signs and make your way outside the terminal and board the waiting AAT Kings coaches.

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - A Night at Field of Light with Voyages Indigenous Tourism

This exclusive dining experience combines the award-winning &#x201c;Sounds of Silence&#x201c; dinner under the outback sky with the once-in-a-lifetime Field of Light art installation.

With magnificent views of Uluru at sunset, a three-course bush tucker menu, premium selection of Australian wines and beers, fascinating star talk and a self-guided walk through the Field of Light art installation, your &#x201c;A Night at Field of Light&#x201c; experience is complete.

### Your accommodation: Voyages Desert Gardens Hotel

Offering the only rooms with views of Uluru in Ayers Rock Resort, 4.5 star Desert Gardens Hotel offers elegant guestrooms within an oasis of native gardens.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 5



### Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

More than just a photo opportunity, this national park holds the wisdom of ancient lands and their custodians - a living cultural landscape where the earth and its people exist as one. It is, of course, home to the awe-inspiring rock formation, Uluru. This natural feature is famous for the way the light plays on it during spectacular sunrises and sunsets and can be viewed from specially created viewing areas depending on the time of day you visit. If exploring geological marvels is a highlight for you, the domes of Kata Tjuta are just as spectacular as Uluru. The Anangu, the traditional owners of this land, believe that the physical landscapes of Uluru-Kata Tjuta were shaped by ancestral beings who still exist here today. At the entrance of the park you will find the Cultural Centre, a free-form structure built entirely from locally-made mud bricks. Here you can learn about the Anangu, their culture and the area's natural environment. You can also marvel at traditional and contemporary art at the park's galleries, or check out the stunning art installation that overlooks the park, the Field of Light, after dark.

### Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks Pass

The Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks Pass allows entry to explore these universally recognised natural wonders. You will be required to show your Uluru-Kata Tjuta Parks Pass at the park entry gates before entering Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Please have your pass ready to be scanned prior to arriving at this location.

### Desert Awakenings Breakfast Voyages Indigenous Tourism

Experience the tranquillity of the pre-dawn land under a canopy of stars. Watch the amazing transformation of colours and life as the desert awakens with Uluru and Kata Tjuta as your backdrop. In the company of your expert guide, Desert Awakenings is designed to introduce you to the natural and cultural landscapes of this remarkable region.

### Sunset Camel Experience

Travel for one hour on friendly camels in the spectacular desert landscape. Bringing you closer to nature, the skilled cameleers share stories of the Territory.

Enjoy stunning views of Uluru and Kata Tjuta as you watch the colour change while the sun sets from atop a sand dune. Return to the farm at twilight to relax and enjoy Australian beer, wine, champagne and outback bush foods including their famous freshly baked beer bread damper.

### Your accommodation: Voyages Desert Gardens Hotel

Offering the only rooms with views of Uluru in Ayers Rock Resort, 4.5 star Desert Gardens Hotel offers elegant guestrooms within an oasis of native gardens.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 6



### Transfer from Accommodation to Ayers Rock Airport

Return transfers to the airport depart from outside your hotel approximately two hours prior to the scheduled flight departure times. Please check with reception for exact departure times.

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### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Own Arrangements Domestic Flight - Yulara (Ayers Rock Airport) to Cairns

The cost for this flight is additional to your tour, we can book this flight for you.

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### Cairns

Cairns was settled by Europeans in 1876 who arrived in search of gold. Modern-day Cairns is now seen as the city "where the rainforest meets the reef" as it is the gateway to both the Wet Tropics World Heritage Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef for the many tourists that pass through each year.

The main tourist centre in town is along the Esplanade, which has a swimming lagoon, bustling weekend markets, and plenty of great food options.

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### Private transfer Cairns Airport to your accommodation

On arrival, you will be met by a private driver outside baggage carousel and delivered to your Cairns accommodation.

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### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Spirit of Cairns Dinner Cruise

A Cairns dinner cruise is the perfect way to end a perfect day in paradise. Board the sailing catamaran and enjoy an evening of calm water cruising on Trinity Inlet, taking in the sights and sounds of this tropical port city and its surrounds as they transition from day to night.

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### Your accommodation: Pacific Hotel Cairns

Located on the Esplanade overlooking Trinity Harbour, Pacific Hotel Cairns offers stunning views from private balconies and easy access to the nearby Reef Fleet Terminal, shopping precinct and Esplanade Lagoon.

Meals included: Breakfast



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## Day 7



### Reef Cruise, Snorkel and Helicopter Flight with Down Under Cruise & Dive

Cruise onboard luxury superyacht, Evolution, to the Outer Great Barrier Reef from Cairns. Over 4 and a half hours of reef time, you will visit two exclusive reef sites, providing plenty of time to snorkel, relax and sunbathe on one of Evolution's three spacious deck levels.

Snorkel or join a Semi-Submersible tour with live commentary from a marine expert or take advantage of Evolution's extensive lounging areas to simply relax or soak up some tropical sun. Your day includes a delicious freshly cooked Aussie BBQ lunch consisting of fish, steak, a variety of salads and tasty ocean prawns. On the return trip to Cairns, you will board a helicopter, where your highly skilled pilot will share their local knowledge of the region while on the lookout for Turtles, Dolphins, Manta Rays, large schools of pelagic fish and even majestic Humpback Whales (Jul-Sep).

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### Great Barrier Reef

The Great Barrier Reef is one of the 7 natural wonders of the world, a World Heritage listed reef system comprising over 3000 individual reefs. This hugely biodiverse ecosystem is home to an abundance of marine life, coral cays and tropical islands surrounded by sun-drenched golden beaches. It has become one of the most highly sought after tourist destinations in the world, so there is no shortage of activities available to help you explore the stunning area, including snorkelling, diving, scenic flights, cruises and whale watching voyages. The Great Barrier Reef is usually accessed via the main ports of Airlie Beach in the Whitsundays and the tropical city of Cairns, although the coast of Far North Queensland harbours many other beautiful towns that provide tours to the reef.



## Your accommodation: Pacific Hotel Cairns

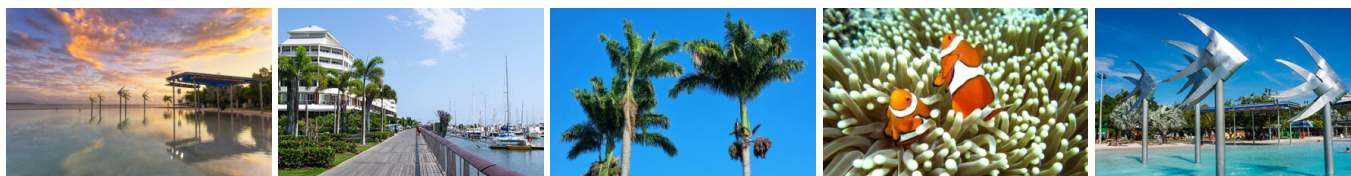
Located on the Esplanade overlooking Trinity Harbour, Pacific Hotel Cairns offers stunning views from private balconies and easy access to the nearby Reef Fleet Terminal, shopping precinct and Esplanade Lagoon.

Meals included: Breakfast



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## Day 8



### Cairns Free Day

Cairns is known as the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, and Queensland's tropical north. It is a laid-back town with a relaxed way of life, ideal for people who enjoy the outdoors and tropical nature. Have a stroll along Cairns esplanade, discover open-air markets, and grab a coffee in one of the brilliant al fresco cafes. After that, you can cool off in the sparkling Esplanade Lagoon. This saltwater pool is lined with parks, shady banyan trees, boardwalks, and barbecues. If you feel active and energised, you can join free outdoor exercise classes, such as yoga, zumba, pilates, or beach volleyball, held six mornings a week along the Esplanade. In the afternoon, you can visit Cairns Botanic Gardens, with their spectacular plant collection. The gardens feature rainforest vegetation and many interesting species of flowers. You can bring your own snacks for the picnic or grab a snack in the cafeteria. You should also explore the Cairns Aquarium, which is dedicated to local species and habitats, with over 16,000 specimens on display. It is home to incredible sea creatures, from sharks to snakes. In the evening, enjoy fresh seafood in one of the gourmet restaurants or a refreshing cocktail in a waterfront bar with its amazing ocean views and great vibes.

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### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Wildlife Experience with Kuranda Scenic Railway

Experience this scenic journey on the Kuranda Scenic Railway to the 'village in the rainforest'. Your day begins in Cairns as you board the train for a morning departure. Travel through unsurpassed views of World Heritage-listed rainforest and waterfalls, including Stoney Creek Falls and the breathtaking Barron Gorge. You will wind your way through 15 tunnels and over 37 bridges on your journey before reaching Kuranda, where you will have several hours to explore the village. Visit the award-winning attractions Birdworld, Kuranda Koala Gardens and the Australian Butterfly Sanctuary. In the afternoon you will board the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway for a journey up and over the rainforest canopy, back to the Skyrail terminal where you will be transported back to the Cairns railway station.

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## Your accommodation: Pacific Hotel Cairns

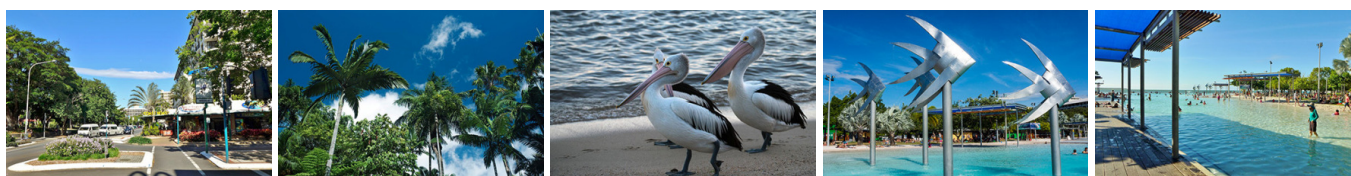
Located on the Esplanade overlooking Trinity Harbour, Pacific Hotel Cairns offers stunning views from private balconies and easy access to the nearby Reef Fleet Terminal, shopping precinct and Esplanade Lagoon.

Meals included: Breakfast



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## Day 9



### Private transfer from accommodation to Cairns Airport

You will be picked up from your Cairns accommodation and taken to the Cairns Airport.

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### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Domestic Flight - Cairns to Sydney

This cost for this flight is additional to your tour, we can book this flight for you.

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### Private transfer Sydney Airport to your accommodation

On arrival, you will be met by a private driver outside baggage carousel and delivered to your Sydney accommodation.

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Sydney & The Rocks Historic Walking Tour with The Rocks Walking Tours

There is no better way to get up close and personal with the living history and heritage of Sydney than on foot with Sydney's most experienced tour guides on a 90-minute leisurely walk around Sydney's historic Rocks district. Hear the story of Sydney from the beginning as you stroll along the shoreline of sparkling Sydney Harbour with views of the Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, past Campbell's Cove, and Cadman's Cottage. Wander down hidden alleyways, into shady courtyards, and along cobbled lanes. Discover the nooks and crannies and get up close and personal with the living history and heritage of Australia's first British settlement. Be amazed by stories of the First Fleet 1788, Nurses Walk, the Rum Rebellion 1808, Suez Canal, the Argyle Cut 1840, the plague 1900, the Sydney Harbour Bridge 1920s, the diabolical 1970s plan to demolish The Rocks, and the green bans that saved it. And of course, hear of the characters and rogues who called it home. Today, The Rocks is renowned for having the oldest streets in Sydney which are dotted with beautifully restored nineteenth-century buildings.

### Your accommodation: Vibe Hotel Darling Harbour

Zen is a state of mind, and you'll find yours at Vibe Hotel Sydney Darling Harbour. This property offers guests a new side to Sydney, one that celebrates an eclectic blend of hole-in-the-wall restaurants and world-class sites in close proximity.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 10



### Explore Sydney

Often mistaken as Australia's capital city, Sydney is a vibrant coastal city with plenty to see and do. Starting in Circular Quay you will catch your first views of the two big icons, Sydney Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. From here you can catch one of the quintessential harbour ferries over to Manly Beach or Taronga Zoo, catching a glimpse of Kirribilli House, the Prime Minister's official Sydney residence, on the way over. Kirribilli is also home to one of Sydney's oldest markets at the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre twice a month. It is known for its stalls of vintage clothing, arts, delicious street food and its lively community atmosphere - so if you are in town on a market day, you can't miss it. For a relaxing end to your day of exploration, your dinner options are aplenty. From high-end restaurants around Circular Quay that offer amazing views, to the Chinatown food courts and a broad range of eateries at Barangaroo, you will be spoiled for choice.

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Sydney Opera House Tour

Step inside an iconic landmark. The Sydney Opera House is one of the world's most recognisable landmarks and this is your chance to truly get up-close. Run your hands over the world-famous shell tiles, take a seat in the elegant custom-made white birch timber chairs and marvel at the vaulted ceilings. Visit areas off-limits to the public and capture photographs from rare vantage points. Watch unforgettable moments from past Concert Hall performances, learning about the history and future of this world-famous hall in an immersive digital experience. Experience the future within a purpose-built venue that boasts heritage-inspired interiors, and state-of-the-art technology, including 270-degree visuals and surround sound.

From the jaw-dropping sweep of the sails to our soaring cathedral interiors, it is impossible to complete a tour of the Sydney Opera House without being compelled to look up.

### The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney - suggestion

Located on the lands of the Cadigal Peoples, the Royal Botanic Gardens of Sydney are Australia's oldest scientific institution and one of the oldest botanic gardens in the Southern Hemisphere. Located just a short walk from Circular Quay and Hyde Park, the garden looks out over Sydney Harbour and has thousands of plant specimens. Wildlife in the garden includes colourful birds, fruit bats and water dragons. The Calyx is a world-class horticultural space, with changing exhibitions designed to capture your imagination.

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Summit with Bridgeclimb Sydney

Experience the breathtaking 360-degree panoramic views of Sydney, whilst scaling the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge on BridgeClimb's original Climb experience. Feel on top of the world as you journey along the upper arch to the peak of an Australian icon, soaking in the stories from your expert Climb Leader and the sights of the Harbour and the City skyline that surround you.

## SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Evening Dinner Cruise with Guaranteed Window Seating on Sydney Harbour

Sydney harbour is like a sunset painting in progress. The aquamarine colours of Summer give way to the warm orange hues of Autumn before deepening to a magical Winter twilight blue. Year-round, sun-up or sun-down and everything in between, the colours of Sydney Harbour will welcome you onboard the evening Dinner Cruise. This is the perfect start to an evening or stunning end to an amazing day in the greatest city in the world.

## Your accommodation: Vibe Hotel Darling Harbour

Zen is a state of mind, and you'll find yours at Vibe Hotel Sydney Darling Harbour. This property offers guests a new side to Sydney, one that celebrates an eclectic blend of hole-in-the-wall restaurants and world-class sites in close proximity.

Meals included: Breakfast



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## Day 11



### Blue Mountains Deluxe Day Tour, including lunch, with AEA Luxury Tours

The Blue Mountains National Park is one of seven national parks that make up the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. This wonderland of sandstone outcrops, deep ravines and hazy blue eucalypt forests boasts luxury retreats and stunning views. This guided day tour will take you off the beaten track to visit remote lookout locations and discuss the history, flora, and fauna of this magnificent region.

### Blue Mountains

The World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains is a wilderness area showcasing ancient rock formations, vast canyons and waterfalls plummeting into valleys below. The breathtaking views over the region stretch to the hazy blue horizon, while the historic village towns nestled amongst the rainforest are dotted with tea rooms, cellar doors and breweries hosted by local producers. There is no shortage of adventure in the Blue Mountains with the rugged sandstone escarpments, underground caves and deep canyons providing the perfect playground for rock climbing, abseiling, canyoning and more. Of course, relaxation is also on the cards with a number of resorts, boutique guesthouses and day spas throughout.

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## Your accommodation: Vibe Hotel Darling Harbour

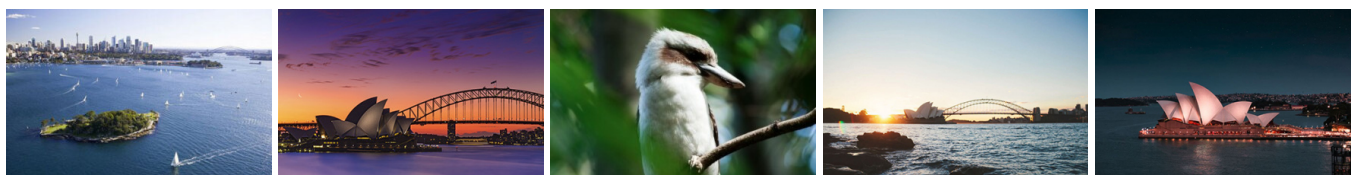
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Meals included: Breakfast



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## Day 12



### Private transfer from accommodation to Sydney Airport

You will be picked up from your Sydney accommodation and taken to the Sydney Airport.

### Farewell from Sydney

Your tour comes to an end today, but if you are itching to explore more amazing sights, we can customise your holiday to include more days or additional destinations. Our trusted travel specialists can book transfers to your onward flight, and even assist in booking these flights for you. Our team can't wait to help you design your ultimate getaway!



## Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Independant Bus & Coach
Starts:	Melbourne
Finishes:	Sydney
Tour length:	12
Accommodation:	Hotel 4 star
Car/transport type:	

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## Accommodation summary

Day 1	Vibe Hotel Melbourne
Day 2	Vibe Hotel Melbourne
Day 3	Vibe Hotel Melbourne
Day 4	Voyages Desert Gardens Hotel
Day 5	Voyages Desert Gardens Hotel
Day 6	Pacific Hotel Cairns
Day 7	Pacific Hotel Cairns
Day 8	Pacific Hotel Cairns
Day 9	Vibe Hotel Darling Harbour
Day 10	Vibe Hotel Darling Harbour
Day 11	Vibe Hotel Darling Harbour