

Full Itinerary

AUSTRALIA UNCOVERED



TALK TO OUR WELL
TRAVELLED TEAM OF
EXPERTS

0844 3350 197

Monday to Friday 09:00 - 18:00
GMT



JOURNEY SNAPSHOT

ACTIVITY LEVEL:

Level 2

DESTINATION:

Australia Uncovered

DURATION:

16 days / 15 nights

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Flights arrive in Brisbane Airport [BNE], Australia on Day 1 and depart from Melbourne Airport [MEL] Australia on Day 16. You may need to depart your home airport up to two days before the tour begins to arrive on this date.

PICKUP LOCATION:

Brisbane Airport

OVERVIEW

Apr 05 - 20, 2027

From sun-drenched cities to ancient deserts and world-famous reefs, we'll explore Australia's highlights in comfort and style. Discover wildlife, culture, and stunning landscapes as we travel from Brisbane to Cairns, Uluru, Sydney, and Melbourne.

Experience the very best of Australia on this unforgettable journey, from the cosmopolitan buzz of Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne to the ancient wonders of the Red Centre. Immerse yourself in Aboriginal culture at Uluru and Kata Tjuta, witnessing the breathtaking colours of the desert at sunrise and sunset. Encounter Australia's incredible wildlife, from cuddly koalas at Lone Pine Sanctuary to the playful penguins of Phillip Island, and explore the lush Daintree Rainforest and the charming village of Kuranda.

Adventure awaits in the world's natural wonders: snorkel or cruise the Great Barrier Reef, walk along the dramatic cliffs of the Great Ocean Road, and enjoy iconic beaches including Bondi. With a blend of city sophistication, cultural insights, wildlife encounters, and jaw-dropping landscapes, this journey offers the ultimate introduction to Australia's diverse and captivating experiences.

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAY 1 - Welcome to Australia!

DAY 2 - Koalas, Crocs, and City Sights – Brisbane Up Close!

DAY 3 - Rainforest Adventures in Kuranda

DAY 4 - Great Barrier Reef Adventure

DAY 5 - Daintree Rainforest & Cape Tribulation

DAY 6 - Sacred Sands & Sunset Magic – Uluru Arrival & Base Walk

DAY 7 - Sunrise & Sounds of Silence

DAY 8 - Uluru to Sydney

DAY 9 - Sydney Icons & Opera House

DAY 10 - Blue Mountains Adventure

DAY 11 - Sydney at Your Pace

DAY 12 - Sydney to Melbourne

DAY 13 - Phillip Island Penguins

DAY 14 - The Great Ocean Road

DAY 15 - Markets & Skydeck Farewell

DAY 16 - Farewell, Australia!

FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - WELCOME TO AUSTRALIA!

Good day and welcome to Brisbane, the vibrant capital of Queensland! Bathed in sunshine and full of energy, the city stretches along the winding Brisbane River, blending modern city life with a relaxed, outdoor lifestyle. Palm-lined streets, colourful bougainvillea, and buzzing cafés create the perfect introduction to Australia.

On arrival at Brisbane International Airport, you'll be transferred to your hotel, where our Big Journey Company team will greet you and help you settle into your room.

This evening, we'll come together for a welcome dinner—an opportunity to meet your fellow travellers, get to know your tour host, and hear all about the adventures that lie ahead. Expect laughs, stories, and a first taste of Australia's warm hospitality as we toast to the journey ahead.

Included meals: Welcome Dinner

Accommodation: Royal on the Park, Brisbane

DAY 2 - KOALAS, CROCS, AND CITY SIGHTS – BRISBANE UP CLOSE!

This morning, after breakfast we take a short drive to Brisbane Cultural Centre Pontoon at Southbank, where we board a Mirimar Cruise for a peaceful journey upstream along the Brisbane River. Marvel at the city skyline as we glide past historic bridges and modern architecture. Our destination is Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, the oldest and largest koala sanctuary in the world. Here, we meet over 100 koalas, feed kangaroos, and see over 75 species of native Australian animals.

In the afternoon, we return to Brisbane and have a leisurely afternoon to explore Southbank, relax by the river, or enjoy a café. This evening, we come together for dinner at a local restaurant to share our first Australian culinary experiences.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation: Royal on the Park, Brisbane

DAY 3 - RAINFOREST ADVENTURES IN KURANDA

After breakfast, we transfer to Brisbane Airport for our mid-morning flight to Cairns, the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef. Upon arrival, we drive to the picturesque village of Kuranda. At Rainforestation Nature Park, local Pamagirri Aboriginal guides welcome us and share Dreamtime stories, bush medicine secrets, and ancient cultural traditions.

We enjoy a little free time to browse Kuranda's charming village markets, then descend the rainforest-covered mountains on the Skyrail Gondola, stopping at an interpretative centre to learn about the lush ecosystem and enjoy a short walk to Barron Falls. Late afternoon, we check into Crystalbrook Collection – Bailey and gather for dinner at Dundee's Restaurant overlooking the Cairns Marina.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation: Crystalbrook Collection - Bailey, Cairns

DAY 4 - GREAT BARRIER REEF ADVENTURE

Today, we dive into the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef!

After breakfast, we hop aboard a catamaran for a full-day cruise to the magical Michaelmas Cay, a pristine sand cay surrounded by dazzling coral gardens and bustling marine life. Grab your snorkel and dive in to meet colourful fish, graceful rays, and maybe even a turtle or two.

Prefer to stay dry? Step into the semi-submersible vessel for an underwater adventure without getting wet, or simply lounge on the sun-drenched beach and soak up the tropical vibes.

A marine biologist joins us on board, sharing fascinating stories about reef conservation and the incredible biodiversity of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Midday, we enjoy a delicious lunch served on deck, surrounded by sparkling waters and the gentle sea breeze.

Back in Cairns, the evening is yours to explore the Marina, enjoy a relaxed dinner, or simply unwind and watch the sunset over the tropical horizon.

Today is pure reef magic, and we've got front-row seats!

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: Crystalbrook Collection - Bailey, Cairns

DAY 5 - DAINTREE RAINFOREST & CAPE TRIBULATION

This morning we set off on a thrilling journey north to the legendary Daintree Rainforest, the oldest surviving rainforest on Earth. Guided by local Indigenous experts, we wander through Mossman Gorge, discovering lush flora, fascinating fauna, and the Dreamtime stories that have shaped this ancient land for thousands of years. Morning tea comes with a true taste of the outback—freshly baked bush bread, known as damper.

Next, we cruise along the twisting Daintree River, keeping our eyes peeled for crocodiles basking in the sun, vibrant birds, and other curious wildlife in their natural habitat.

After a scenic lunch at the Daintree Discovery Centre, we continue to Cape Tribulation, where the rainforest dramatically meets the Great Barrier Reef. Here, we walk along the pristine beach, soak in breathtaking coastal views, and climb to Kulki Lookout for a panoramic perspective of this UNESCO World Heritage wonder.

Returning to Cairns in the late afternoon, the evening is yours to relax, explore the local dining scene, or simply reflect on the day's rainforest adventures.

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: Crystalbrook Collection - Bailey, Cairns

DAY 6 - SACRED SANDS & SUNSET MAGIC – ULURU ARRIVAL & BASE WALK

We start early, transferring to Cairns Airport for our flight to Uluru, the heart of Australia's Red Centre. On arrival, we're immediately captivated by the iconic Ayers Rock, rising majestically from the desert floor.

Our sightseeing tour takes us around the base of Uluru, where we explore the Kuniya Walk and visit the Mutijulu Waterhole, a sacred site rich in Aboriginal culture and stories. Along the way, we uncover the Rock's fascinating geology, ancient history, and spiritual significance, gaining a deeper appreciation for this sacred landscape.

After a day of discovery, we check into the Voyages Desert Garden Hotel, our tranquil oasis in the desert. The evening is at leisure – a perfect chance to relax, watch the changing colors of the Red Centre at sunset, or soak in the serenity of the outback.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Voyages Desert Garden Hotel

DAY 7 - SUNRISE & SOUNDS OF SILENCE

Rise early to witness Uluru at sunrise, a magical experience as the rock changes colour with the morning light.

After breakfast, we visit Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) and explore the domed formations.

The afternoon is free to relax or join optional activities at the resort.

In the evening, we enjoy the Sounds of Silence Dinner, dining under the stars with the sunset behind Uluru and Kata Tjuta, accompanied by the haunting sounds of a didgeridoo and gourmet Australian cuisine.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation: Voyages Desert Garden Hotel

DAY 8 - ULURU TO SYDNEY

After breakfast, we fly to Sydney, Australia's sparkling harbour city.

The rest of the day is yours to enjoy. Spend the afternoon exploring the city's vibrant streets, discovering hidden gems, or simply relaxing by the

sparkling harbour.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney

DAY 9 - SYDNEY ICONS & OPERA HOUSE

After breakfast at the hotel, we will set out to explore The Rocks, Sydney's historic district where the First Fleet first landed and the city's European history began. As we stroll along the cobbled streets, we'll pause to admire the heritage buildings, charming laneways, and local markets.

Next, we'll head to Mrs Macquarie's Chair, a perfect vantage point for panoramic views across Sydney Harbour, taking in the iconic Opera House and the majestic Harbour Bridge. Take your time to snap photos or simply breathe in the sparkling waters and city skyline.

From here, we'll make our way to Bondi Beach, where you can enjoy some free time to wander along the famous stretch of sand, watch the surfers, or grab a leisurely lunch at one of the beachside cafés.

In the afternoon, we will gather at the Sydney Opera House for a guided tour. We'll explore its theatres, foyers, and architectural highlights, learning about the building's history, design, and the fascinating stories behind this world-famous landmark.

As the day winds down, we'll head to the Opera Bar, right on the harbour, to enjoy dinner together with spectacular views of the water and city lights reflecting across the harbour—a perfect setting to share stories from the day and toast to our Sydney adventure.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation: Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney

DAY 10 - BLUE MOUNTAINS ADVENTURE

Today we head west from Sydney to the spectacular Blue Mountains, a region renowned for its dramatic cliffs, lush valleys, and ancient forests. Our first stop is Featherdale Wildlife Park, where we'll have the chance to meet kangaroos, wallabies, and emus up close, and maybe even hand-feed these iconic Australian animals.

Next, we will journey to Echo Point, the perfect vantage point to marvel at the legendary Three Sisters rock formation and soak in the breathtaking panorama of the Jamison Valley. After taking photos and enjoying the scenery, we'll enjoy a relaxed lunch at a local café.

In the afternoon, we continue our adventure at Scenic World, where the fun really begins! We'll ride the Scenic Railway, the world's steepest incline railway, descend into the ancient rainforest, and walk along elevated boardwalks. Then we'll soar above the treetops on the Scenic Cableway and glide across the valley on the Scenic Skyway, taking in the waterfalls, cliffs, and endless eucalyptus forests from 270 meters above. After this unforgettable day in nature, we return to Sydney, with the evening free to relax or explore at your leisure.

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney

DAY 11 - SYDNEY AT YOUR PACE

Today is yours to explore Sydney at your own pace. Perhaps take a stroll around Darling Harbour, enjoy shopping in the CBD, or simply relax at your hotel with views of the sparkling water.

In the evening, we'll gather to board a Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise. As we glide along the harbour, we'll enjoy a delicious meal while taking in stunning views of the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, and city skyline illuminated at night. Relax, raise a glass, and soak in the magic of Sydney from the water—a perfect evening to celebrate our time in this vibrant city.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation: Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney

DAY 12 - SYDNEY TO MELBOURNE

After breakfast, we'll transfer to Sydney Airport for our short flight to Melbourne, Australia's cultural heart. Upon arrival, we will embark on a city sightseeing tour, passing iconic landmarks including Federation Square, the MCG, Old Treasury Building, and the unique street art

laneways.

After soaking in Melbourne's vibrant atmosphere, we will check in to the hotel. The afternoon is free to wander, enjoy a coffee at a local café, or simply relax and watch Melbourne life unfold.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Pan Pacific Hotel, Melbourne

DAY 13 - PHILLIP ISLAND PENGUINS

Following a leisurely morning in Melbourne, we'll set off on a scenic drive to Phillip Island. Our first stop is the Koala Conservation Centre, where we'll walk along elevated boardwalks among eucalyptus trees, spotting koalas in their natural habitat.

Next, we continue to the Nobbies Centre, perched on the rugged western coast of the island, offering spectacular views of the Southern Ocean and dramatic coastline. As the sun begins to set, we'll experience the famous Penguin Parade, watching the little penguins waddle from the surf to their sand-dune burrows. It's a magical and unforgettable sight! Late in the evening, we return to Melbourne, reflecting on the day's wildlife wonders.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation: Pan Pacific Hotel, Melbourne

DAY 14 - THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

Today is a full-day adventure along the Great Ocean Road, one of the world's most scenic coastal drives. We'll travel through picturesque towns such as Lorne and Apollo Bay, taking in dramatic cliffs, windswept beaches, and the lush slopes of the Otway Ranges.

After lunch, we continue to Port Campbell National Park to witness the awe-inspiring Twelve Apostles, towering limestone stacks rising from the Southern Ocean. Along the way, we'll explore other coastal highlights of the "Shipwreck Coast," stopping for photos and to marvel at the sheer power of the waves and the beauty of this rugged coastline.

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: Pan Pacific Hotel, Melbourne

DAY 15 - MARKETS & SKYDECK FAREWELL

After breakfast, we'll immerse ourselves in the vibrant atmosphere of the Queen Victoria Market, the Southern Hemisphere's largest open-air market. Wander the stalls, pick up souvenirs, and sample fresh local produce while taking in the lively sounds and sights of Melbourne.

In the afternoon, we'll ascend the Melbourne Skydeck, the highest observation platform in the Southern Hemisphere, for sweeping city views and a chance to spot landmarks from above. Our journey concludes with a farewell dinner overlooking the Yarra River, sharing stories and memories from our incredible adventure across Australia.

Included meals: Breakfast & Farewell Dinner

Accommodation: Pan Pacific Hotel, Melbourne

DAY 16 - FAREWELL, AUSTRALIA!

After breakfast, we'll transfer to Melbourne International Airport for our flights home. As we say goodbye to Australia, we carry with us unforgettable memories of landscapes, wildlife, culture, and friendship, along with stories to share for years to come.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: None

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Meet & Greet at the Brisbane Airport on arrival
- Internal flights as detailed in the itinerary
- Transfers included (subject to arriving/departing at the designated airport and staying at the tour hotel on the official tour dates)
- Accommodation as detailed in the itinerary
- Transfers as detailed in the itinerary
- Meals as detailed in the itinerary
- All activities, visits and excursions as detailed in the itinerary
- National English speaking tour guide
- Tour Director from The Big Journey Company as well as the local tour guide (subject to minimum group size being reached.)

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- ATOL Protection
- Return flights to/from Australia - Please contact us for a flight quotation
- All entrance fees to non-stipulated attractions
- Visa entry to Australia
- Drinks
- Gratuities
- Visas, travel and medical insurance
- Any personal items and anything not mentioned under included in price above
- Any meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Any optional activities offered
- Any COVID tests or related entry & exit requirements

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Flights:** International flights to/from your chosen destination are not included in this package. The Big Journey Company will be happy to provide a quotation for your flights—please contact us for further details.
- **Vaccinations & Health:** Vaccinations may be recommended depending on your destination. Please consult your doctor or travel clinic for the most up-to-date medical advice.
- **Visas & Entry Requirements:** Entry requirements vary by destination, and a visa may be required. Please refer to the travel tips section for full details. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the necessary travel documentation prior to departure.
- **Medical Needs:** Please inform The Big Journey Company prior to travel of any medical conditions or medications you take that we should be aware of to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
- **Accommodation Check-in/Out:** Unless otherwise stated in your itinerary, check-in is after 2–3pm and check-out is before 10am. Please note that hotels may be subject to change to the same or similar standard due to availability.
- **Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations made within 90 days of departure are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Deposits are non-refundable, and balance payments are due 14 weeks prior to departure. It is your responsibility to ensure adequate travel insurance is in place to protect against the need to cancel your holiday.
- **Minimum Numbers:** The Big Journey Company host will accompany the tour should minimum guest numbers be met. We will confirm this closer to the departure date.
- **Terms & Conditions:** Further terms and conditions apply and will be provided upon request or at the time of booking. The Big Journey Company reserves the right to withdraw any offer prior to accepting a reservation. This does not affect your statutory rights. All offers are subject to availability and space is limited.

BOOK YOUR JOURNEY

Choose from the list of dates below

BOOK NOW!

05 APR - 20 APR 2027

FROM \$11,439 PER PERSON.

Call to Book

0844 3350 197

Monday to Friday 09:00 - 18:00 GMT