**PRELIMINARY ITINERARY as of 12/1/22**

**(to be updated mid December, hotels & tours may change due to availability)**

**ROTARY DOWN UNDER WITH NEW ZEALAND - TOUR 2**

# TOUR DAYS: 24 : 22 NIGHTS + TRAVEL DAYS

# TOUR TYPE: PRIVATE GROUP

**TOUR DATES: MAY 16 – JUNE 9, 2023 DEPARTING AUSTRALIA JUNE 9** (Airlines & flight times tbd)

**ATLANTA – AUCKLAND – ROTORUA – CHRISTCHURCH – QUEENSTOWN – MELBOURNE – CAIRNS – SYDNEY - ATLANTA**

**TOUR SUMMARY:**

Discover some of the most magnificent mountains, breathtaking fjords, fascinating cities, and spectacular rainforests on the planet with this 25 day tour of New Zealand and Australia! Begin your journey in Auckland, the capital of New Zealand and a vibrant city that sits squarely on the Pacific Ring of Fire. Learn about the past and present volcanic activity of the city as you explore the diverse neighborhoods and historic landmarks. Drive over the Auckland Harbour Bridge and take in the magnificent views of the Hauraki Gulf and the city skyline. Visit The Domain, the oldest park in Auckland and one of the largest in the city! Head on a tour of the Waitomo Caves as you will travel through the beautiful farmlands and enjoy a breathtaking boat ride on the Glowworm Grotto, illuminated by thousands of tiny glowworms. Catch a flight to Christchurch to uncover the extraordinary sights of the Southern Alps from Mount Cook, the highest mountain in New Zealand with a height of 3,724 meters, before you visit Lake Tekapo en route to Queenstown.

Next you will fly to Melbourne, the cultural capital of Australia filled with fascinating hidden gems including an underground art scene, extraordinary restaurants, and ample shopping opportunities. Wander around the Fitzroy Gardens, one of the most beautiful gardens in Melbourne, and visit Albert Park, home to the Australian Grand Prix. Enjoy a one half day tour of Philip Island then two full day tours of the Great Ocean Road and Yarra Valley. All this including transport to & from the Rotary Convention May 27-31.

Then we fly to Cairns in North Queensland for 2 nights. Optional tours available: The Kuranda Scenic Rainforest (rail & cableway) or take the catamaran to Fitzroy Island to explore the Great Barrier Reef; full day tour of world heritage sites - Tablelands, Rainforest, Waterfalls & Paronella Park.

Next we’ll take a flight to Sydney to discover some of the most iconic attractions in Australia. Visit the Sydney Opera House, known for its extraordinary architectural design, and explore Bondi Beach, the most famous surfing beach in the country. Wander around Sydney Harbour and uncover the breathtaking views of the coastline. Your small-group tour of Australia will shortly come to an end in Sydney — and you will head home filled with unforgettable memories!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

* + - * Explore Auckland, the capital of New Zealand, known for its rich volcanic activity
      * Head on a tour of the Waitomo Caves, illuminated by thousands of glow worms
      * Visit Aoraki, the tallest mountain in New Zealand with a height of 3,724 meters
      * Travel to Melbourne, a multicultural city with a bustling art scene and boutiques,

Then on to Cairns & Sydney (same as Tour 1 itinerary)

**TOUR PRICES:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Departure Dates** | **Atlanta** | **Single Supp.** |
| **16-May-22** | tbd | tbd |

**TOUR LODGING INFO:** *22 Nights Accommodation + 02 Nights Onboard on Inbound Flight*

Accommodation will be provided on a twin-sharing basis

**CITIES NIGHTS SUPERIOR HOTELS**

Auckland 02 Nights Copthorne Auckland City

Rotorua 01 Nights Sudima Lake Rotorua

Christchurch 02 nights Ibis Hotel Christchurch

Queenstown 03 Nights Copthorne Lakefront

Melbourne 08 Nights Mercure Swanston Hotel

Cairns 03 Nights Cairns Sheridan Hotel

Sydney 03 Nights Aspire Sydney or Metro Marlow Sydney

**TOUR 2 PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

* 22 Nights’ accommodation on twin sharing basis at the listed superior hotel or similar (8 nights in NZ, 14 in AUS)
* Daily Breakfast
* Arrival and Departure airport transfers
* Sightseeing as per itinerary
* International round trip airfare from Atlanta – Auckland / Queenstown – Melbourne - Atlanta
* All air taxes and fuel surcharges
* All currently applicable local taxes

**TOUR PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

* Items of a personal nature, Tips & gratuities
* Baggage fees may apply and vary by carrier
* Optional Tours
* Visa fees
* Items not mentioned as being included

**TOUR ITINERARY:**

**DAY 01: 5/16 ATLANTA - AUCKLAND** (likely layover in Dallas / DFW)

Make your own way to the Atlanta airport for your international overnight flight to New Zealand. Enjoy inflight meals and services

**DAY 02: 5/17 IN FLIGHT (Time change)**

Continue your overnight flight to New Zealand. Enjoy inflight meals and services.

**DAY 03: 5/18 AUCKLAND (ARRIVAL)**

Welcome to New Zealand! Upon arrival at the Auckland International Airport, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure to explore the city at your own pace.

Overnight in Auckland

**DAY 04: 5/19 AUCKLAND (B/-/-)**

# This morning you will head on a half-day tour of Auckland that is packed with city sights and historical landmarks! Board your coach and travel through the city center, along Karangahape Road as you discover its diverse vibe and pass by the fashionable Ponsonby area. Make your way over the Auckland Harbour Bridge as you take in the breathtaking views of the Hauraki Gulf and the city skyline. Visit the Viaduct Harbour and discover Auckland's famous Queen Street before making your way to the Auckland Domain. The Domain is the city's oldest park, and, at 75 hectares, one of the largest. Developed around an extinct volcano, the park boasts tropical gardens, duck ponds, and public art, and is also home to the Auckland War Memorial Museum. After visiting the Domain, your tour will continue to the Parnell Village for a short morning tea stop (at your own expense). The historic buildings of Parnell have been transformed into a trendy shopping area featuring a wide range of boutiques, craft, and specialty stores. From there you will be transferred back to your hotel. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure.

# Overnight in Auckland

**DAY 05: 5/20 AUCKLAND – ROTORUA (B/L/-)**

# Today you will discover the rich cultural heritage of New Zealand along with the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua. Your tour will also take you to the famous glowworm caves of Waitomo. Depart Auckland in the morning to travel the breathtaking farmlands of the Waikato and King Country regions as you listen to the commentary from your driver guide. Learn about the history of the region as you pass by sites of interest such as Rangiriri, the site of a major battle in the Maori Land Wars in 1863. Your first stop will be in the small town of Waitomo, where you will head on a 45-minute guided tour through the world-famous Waitomo Caves. Travel through these underground limestone caverns, discovered in 1887, and find out how the incredible stalactites, stalagmites, and other fascinating rock formations were formed over a period of 30 million years. Your tour will end with a short yet magical boat ride through the Glowworm Grotto — a subterranean cavern illuminated by thousands of tiny glowworms. Enjoy a delicious picnic-style lunch (vegetarian and other dietary options will be available on request) as you make your way to Rotorua, in the heart of the Central North Island. On the outskirts of the city, stop at the Agrodome, an organic farm where you can learn all about farming in New Zealand. Take a tour of the Agrodome farm in an all-terrain vehicle to see how sheep are shorn and watch a live sheepdog trial. Leaving the Agrodome, make your way to Te Puia, one of New Zealand's leading cultural venues. At Te Puia's marae (meeting house) you will receive a traditional welcome and an invitation to see a Maori cultural performance, where ancient and modern stories will be told through songs, dance, poi, and stick games. You will develop an understanding of this unique culture and history as you are entertained by the talented and charismatic performers. The tour will end in Rotorua, where you may experience everything from adrenaline rushes from luging and jet boating to fascinating nature encounters and relaxing spa treatments. The tour will end with a drop-off at your hotel.

# Overnight in Rotorua

**DAY 06: 5/21 ROTORUA — CHRISTCHURCH (B/-/-)**

Spend the morning at leisure. In the afternoon, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Christchurch. Upon arrival in Christchurch, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure or book an optional tour.

Overnight in Christchurch

Optional: Tram Restaurant

Make your own way (transfer will not be included) to the meeting point of Tram Stop Number 1, Cathedral Junction, 111 Worcester Street. Live the luxury life in the 36-seater air-conditioned, colonial-style dining tram and be treated to the finest service, food, and beverages New Zealand has to offer. Combine fabulous dining with Christchurch City heritage for a fascinating mix of old and new. Each circuit of the Tram loop will take about 50 minutes and you will be expected to complete about 3 laps of the Tramline as you enjoy your four-course dinner with a complimentary drink.

***Tour Departs****: May vary from 6:00-7:30 PM (to be confirmed upon booking)*

***Tour Ends****: 2.5 hours after commencement*

**DAY 07: 5/22 CHRISTCHURCH (B/-/-)**

Hop on your coach for a half-day tour of Christchurch. The trip will start by covering the central city highlights including the botanical gardens, the Museum and Art Centre, the Avon River, the Bridge of Remembrance, the city's new pop-up container mall, and many other CBD\* highlights. As you leave the inner city, the coach will take you to Mona Vale and its historic homestead and gardens. You will travel up to the Sign of the Takahe, a historic building boasting breathtaking views of the city, the Canterbury Plains, and the Southern Alps, and make your way over the Port Hills to the Port of Lyttleton. Travel through the harbour tunnel to the seaside suburb of Sumner and the cave rock before returning to the central city. The tour will end at approximately 12:00 PM, at which time hotel drop-offs will commence.

*\*Please note that the tour of the CBD can change daily due to road closures and new areas re-opening.*

Overnight in Christchurch

**DAY 08: 5/23 CHRISTCHURCH – QUEENSTOWN (B/-/-)**

Today you will head on an intercity tour of Queenstown. En route, discover the beauty and grandeur of the Southern Alps with a sightseeing day tour via Mount Cook. Leaving Christchurch in the morning, you will travel through the fertile farmlands of the Canterbury Plains to the shores of the breathtaking glacier-fed Lake Tekapo, where you can see the solitary Church of the Good Shepherd and take in the sights of the extraordinary Southern Alps. Continue your tour to New Zealand's tallest mountain, Aoraki/Mount Cook, situated in a National Park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Rising 3,724 meters high, Aoraki certainly lives up to its name; Maori is translated to 'cloud piercer'. Legend tells of a young boy named Aoraki who was stranded with his brothers when their canoe struck a reef. As it tilted, the brothers climbed to the high side, where they were frozen by the south wind and turned into stone. Aoraki and his brothers now make up the Southern Alps. Spend time at the famous Hermitage Hotel in the village of Mount Cook (lunch will not be included). After lunch, you will have time to explore the village and take in the view. Alternatively, you will have time to head on a scenic helicopter or ski plane flight to uncover breathtaking views of the mountain peaks and glaciers (at an additional cost, weather permitting – this flight can be arranged with your driver-guide on the day). The tour will continue south, past Lake Pukaki and through the tawny tussock of the Mackenzie Country. En route, enjoy a hot cup of afternoon tea (at your own expense) in the quaint village of Omarama. If time permits, visit the Jones Family Orchard near Cromwell. Your tour will end at approximately 6:30 PM upon reaching Queenstown, the adventure capital of New Zealand.

Overnight in Queenstown

**DAY 09: 5/24 QUEENSTOWN (B/-/-)**

Spend the day at leisure or pre-book one of the following optional tours.

Overnight in Queenstown

Optional: Full-Day Milford Sound Excursion

Head on an unforgettable journey into the heart of Milford Sound, the most famous tourist destination in New Zealand. You will discover the world-famous fiord in all its natural glory, surrounded by dense rainforests, glacier-carved valleys, and magnificent waterfalls. Travel across the Southern Alps as you snap photos of the breathtaking Mirror Lakes and discover Eglinton Valley — a place of ancient alpine forests and gushing waterfalls. Head deep into the Homer Tunnel, a 1.2 km tunnel drilled through solid rock before you walk across The Chasm. In the deep waters of Milford Sound, board your Southern Discoveries Scenic Cruise. See the wonders of Mitre Peak — glacier-scarred rock walls and waterfalls that tumble through valleys and crash into the sea below. After your cruise, your coach will take you back to Queenstown.

***Tour Ends:*** *7:45 PM including hotel drop-off*

**DAY 10: 5/25 QUEENSTOWN (B/-/-)**

Spend the day at leisure or pre-book one of the following optional tours.

Overnight in Queenstown

Optional: Safari in the Scenes of the Lord of The Rings

This fascinating Lord of the Rings tour is based around the Wakatipu Basin and mixes off-road adventure with trips to several filming sites, including The Remarkables (The Misty Mountains), Deer Park Heights (The Battle of the Wargs), and the Kawarau Gorge (Argonath / Pillars of the Kings). The tour will take you to Arrowtown, where the loss of The One Ring of Gladden Fields was filmed. Head on true off-roading adventures as you follow a historic gold mining road up the Arrow River before crossing into the Ford of Bruinen. At this point, there will be a short break to rest and enjoy a cup of morning or afternoon tea. You may also try your hand at gold panning. Afterwards, the tour will take you to the entrance of the Skippers Canyon where you will see breathtaking panoramic views of the Wakatipu Basin.

***Tour Ends:*** *12:15-12:30 PM or 5:30 PM with hotel drop-off*

Optional: Doubtful Sound Inclusive of a Wilderness Cruise USD 265 per person

Hop on your coach to head on a full-day Doubtful Sound Excursion. Depart Queenstown and travel along the shores of Lake Wakatipu through the rolling countryside to Pearl Harbour in Manapouri. Board the Real Journeys Vessel for a cruise across Lake Manapouri to the West Arm. A coach will then take you across the alpine route of the Wilmot Pass through some of Fiordland's densest rainforests. Upon reaching the Deep Cove, board the Patea Explorer Vessel for a 3-hour cruise on the serene and remote Doubtful Sound. The Patea Explorer is a 31.01-meter cruising catamaran. Discover waterfalls, rainforests, mountains, fur seals basking on the rocks, resident pods of bottlenose dolphins, and rare Fiordland Crested Penguins. On your return cruise, the vessel's engines will be turned off and you will be treated to 'The Sound of Silence' before retracing your steps back to Queenstown

***Tour Ends:*** *8:15 PM with hotel drop-offs*

**DAY 11: 5/26 QUEENSTOWN – MELBOURNE (B/-/-)**

In the morning you will check out from your hotel, and, at the arranged time, you will be transferred to the Queenstown International Airport for your flight to Melbourne. Upon arrival in Melbourne, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in. Spend the rest of the day at leisure to explore the city at your own pace.

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 12 thru 5/27 MELBOURNE (B/-/-)**

Return transfer to the Rotary Convention for the opening ceremony (Pick up and drop off only)

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 13: 5/28 MELBOURNE (B/-/-)**

Transfer to the Rotary Convention. In the afternoon pick up from the Convention for a city tour of Melbourne. (10 hours coach use)

Melbourne is home to many of Australia's best-known [landmarks](about:blank), such as the [Melbourne Cricket Ground](about:blank), the [National Gallery of Victoria](about:blank) and the [World Heritage](about:blank)-listed [Royal Exhibition Building](about:blank). Noted for [its cultural heritage](about:blank), the city gave rise to [Australian rules football](about:blank), [Australian impressionism](about:blank) and [Australian cinema](about:blank), and has more recently been recognized as a [UNESCO](about:blank) [City of Literature](about:blank) and a global center for [street art](about:blank), [live music](about:blank) and theatre.

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 14: 5/29 MELBOURNE – PHILIP ISLAND (B/-/-)**

Transfer to the Rotary Convention. (12 hours coach use)

In the afternoon Head on a tour of Philip Island. On your way, enjoy the magnificent views of Melbourne’s affluent suburbs. Here you will see many modern buildings alongside beautiful federation homes — many of which were built in the late 1800s. As the South Gippsland Highway approaches the landscape, your sights will become more rural with smaller townships and farming properties along the way. San Remo is the gateway to Phillip Island and the seafood capital in the region. As you travel through this quaint fishing village, you will see local fishermen casting a line off the jetty. Next, you will cross the only bridge that connects Phillip Island to the mainland. While Phillip Island is famous for its Little Penguin Parade, it also boasts an incredible coastline with ideal surfing conditions and a wide range of wildlife. The Penguin Parade Visitors’ Facility has extensive information available for Phillip Island with its rich history, local wildlife, and of course, the Penguin Parade. Here you can learn about the Little Penguin and its lifestyle. You can also browse through their souvenir shop to find your own piece of Penguin memorabilia. Head down to Summerland Beach to see a Little Penguin magic. You will certainly fall in love with these little guys! Just as the sun sets over the ocean, the Little Penguins will emerge from the sea and waddle up the beach to their sand dune burrows. These Little Penguins are the smallest of the penguin species, and Phillip Island is fortunate enough to be home to the largest colony of these creatures in the world. They cherish their Little Penguin colony. To protect them, all the revenue generated from the parade is invested back into the research, environment, and education projects to ensure their species flourishes.

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 15: 5/30 MELBOURNE (B/-/-)**

Return transfer to the Rotary Convention. (Pick up and drop off only) Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 16: 5/31 MELBOURNE (B/-/-)**

Return transfer to the Rotary Convention & closing ceremony. (Pick up and drop off only)

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 17: 6/1 YARRA VALLEY (NO GUIDE) (B/-/-)**

Enjoy an authentic taste of the Yarra Valley on this full-day from Melbourne. Visit local farmers, family-run wineries, and artisan producers as you travel through the patchwork of vineyards and farmlands. Stop along the way to indulge in wine tasting at De Bortoli winery; sample scrumptious handmade chocolates at the Yarra Valley Chocolaterie; and enjoy a delicious lunch at Rochford Winery. That’s not all: other stops include Yarra Valley Dairy and Yering Station.

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 18: 5/2 GREAT OCEAN ROAD (NO GUIDE) (B/-/-)**

Spend a full day exploring the natural wonders of Australia’s Great Ocean Road. Your guide picks you up at centrally located Melbourne hotels in a comfortable, high-tech mini coach, where you join just a handful of other passengers for a personalized, small-group experience. Onboard narration is available in many different languages through the Go West Tours app. The Great Ocean Road officially begins at Torquay, a famous surf town of gorgeous, sandy beaches. Stop at a beachside location before continuing through several charming port towns before stopping at Great Otway National Park, which boasts ancient trees among a semitropical forest. The coastal landscape comes to a dramatic climax at Port Campbell National Park, where you can gawk at the Twelve Apostles—a grouping of massive limestone pillars that rise up out of the ocean. The rugged cliffs along the Great Ocean Road once made for perilous navigation for vessels sailing into the port of Melbourne. Hear the tragic tales of Australia’s ‘Shipwreck Coast’ and visit Loch Ard Gorge, the postcard-worthy site of a notorious 1878 shipwreck. Finally, view the Gibson's Steps for a dramatic example of the power of erosion. Take in the incredible cliff line and offshore stacks before continuing on your drive back to Melbourne. Stop for dinner (own expense) on the return drive to Melbourne. Relax on the ride back to your hotel or share snapshots of the day with family and friends using the coach’s free onboard Wi-Fi.

Overnight in Melbourne

**DAY 19: 6/3 MELBOURNE - CAIRNS (B/-/-)**

This morning you will be picked up and transferred to Melbourne International Airport for your flight to Cairns. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel by airport shuttle. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Cairns

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**DAY 20: 6/4 CAIRNS (B/-/-)**

Enjoy the day at leisure or pre-book one of the following optional tours.

Overnight in Cairns

**Optional: Kuranda Scenic Rail & Sky Rail Rainforest:**

**Optional: Kuranda Scenic Rail & Sky Rail Rainforest Gold Class:**

Enjoy a full day Kuranda Skyrail, and Scenic Rail tour. You will be picked up at your hotel and transferred to Smithfield Terminal to board the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway at the scheduled time advised by the driver and glide above the rainforest canopy to Kuranda. There are two stations en route where you can alight and enjoy a walk through the rainforest to spectacular lookouts or visit the CSIRO Interpretive Centre. Arrive at Kuranda to enjoy free time for approximately an hour and a half and explore the 'Village in the Rainforest' and its many attractions including the Heritage Markets which operate daily. You will have time to enjoy lunch (own expense). We recommend you visit other Kuranda Village attractions like Birdworld, The Australian Butterfly Sanctuary or Kuranda Koala Gardens (own expense). At 2:00pm board the Kuranda Scenic Railway for the journey to Cairns and enjoy spectacular views as the train travels through 15 hand cut tunnels and past spectacular waterfalls. Stop at Barron Gorge to view the falls before arriving at Freshwater Station. Tour concludes at approximately 4.00pm, at which time hotel drop offs will commence.

The Kuranda Scenic Rail Gold Class Upgrade includes: Dedicated host service; individual seating, moveable tub-style chairs; ambient, historical decor including timber looking flooring, historical photos and fans; quality refreshments including sparkling Australian wine, beer, orange juice, soft drink, ice water, appetisers and chilled towel during the journey; Kuranda Scenic Rail gift pack including pewter KSQ pin, pen, postcard and postage; and souvenir Z-card (commentary companion).

**Optional: Fitzroy Island Experience:**

# The high-speed catamaran departs daily from the Cairns Reef Fleet Terminal for the scenic 45-minute cruise to Fitzroy Island, travelling adjacent to the protected waters of the coastline. On arrival at Fitzroy you will discover one of the most unspoiled islands on the Great Barrier Reef, covered in lush rainforest that descends into crystal clear waters. Your day on Fitzroy Island offers ample opportunity to snorkel the fringed coral reefs and explore the underwater world in a glass bottom boat, take a leisurely paddle around Welcome Bay, relive your childhood on the ocean trampoline or just relax on the beach. You can also enjoy the rainforest walks through the National Park and a prepacked picnic lunch at your leisure.

***Tour Departs:*** *8:15am check-in, tour starts at 9:00am from Reef Fleet Terminal*

*Please note: Passenger Levy of AUD 5 per person, to be paid locally and subject to change without notice. This tour does not include transfers*

What to Bring: Hat, towel, sunscreen, camera, swimming suit, protective clothing, change of clothes, money for meals, drinks and souvenirs Sunglasses

**DAY 21: 6/5 CAIRNS (B/-/-)**

Enjoy the day at leisure or pre-book one of the following optional tours.

Overnight in Cairns

**Optional: Full Day Tablelands, Rainforest, Waterfalls and Paronella Park:**

Depart from Cairns and head south travelling past Walsh's Pyramid, one of the largest naturally formed pyramids in the world. Here your guide will stop so you can grab a photo of this unique North Queensland landmark. Now it's time to travel up the World Heritage listed Gillies Highway climbing 730 metres above sea level whilst enjoying the breath taking views over the Goldbourgh Valley. Just before the top of the amazing Gillies Range is a short photo opportunity at the Heales Lookout before heading into the gorgeous Atherton Tableands. Your first stop is beautiful World Heritage Listed Lake Barrine Crater Lake National Park. On arrival, your tour guide will take you on a short walk to visit the 1000-year-old Twin Kauri Pines, true giants of the rainforest. After the guided walk, enjoy a delicious freshly baked scones with jam and cream accompanied by locally grown and freshly brewed Tea and coffee (unlimited cup refills). Then depart on a 40-minute guided wildlife cruise on the lake. Once the cruise is complete, you will all meet back at the bus for our departure to the historical town of Yungaburra. Yungaburra is recognised as having the most Nationally Listed Heritage buildings in Queensland. Next stop is The Curtain Fig Tree located in the Curtain Fig Tree National Park. Now it's time to descend from the mountains down the Palmerstone Highway through sugar cane and banana fields to the coastal town of Innisfail. On arrival, begin your delicious lunch at Roscoe's all you can eat Hot buffet. Paronella Park is the next destination, you will be guided through the extensive National Trust Gardens while learning the rich history of Hosea Paronella's wonderful achievements and his colourful history of how he built his Spanish Castle in the rainforest. Continue northbound passing the wettest town in Queensland, Babinda with an annual rainfall total over 4 metres per year. This "umbrella" town sits between Queensland’s two highest mountains; Mt Bartle Frere (1,611 metres) and Mt Bellender Ker (1,593 metres). These majestic mountains are all covered in World Heritage Rainforest and form part of the Great Dividing Range; Australia's most substantial mountain range and the third longest land-based range in the world. From there it is an approximate 50-60-minute drive back to the city of Cairns and return to your accommodation.

**DAY 22: 6/6 CAIRNS - SYDNEY (B/-/-)**

This morning, at the arranged time, you will be picked up and transferred to Airport for your flight to Sydney.

On arrival check in to your hotel.

In the evening enjoy a Showboat dinner cruise (no transfers - transfer).

Overnight in Syndey

**DAY 23: 6/7 BLUE MOUNTAINS – SYDNEY ZOO (No guide) (B/-/-)**

You will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to Wheat Road, the Streetside behind the Sydney Aquarium in Darling Harbour. Board your coach, sit back, and relax as you make your way into the incredible Blue Mountains as you listen to your driver-guide offer details on the day’s itinerary. Travel over the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge and head west towards the Blue Mountains. Visit the quaint village of Leura and then head to the Scenic World and take in the views of the Jamison Valley. You may choose to ride the Railway, Cableway, or Skyway. Your next stop will be at Echo Point to take in the breathtaking views of the Megalong and Jamison Valleys across to the Three Sisters. Learn about the Aboriginal Dreamtime legend of this rock formation. Stop at the Waradah Aboriginal Centre (entry will not be included), then head to the Sydney Zoo for the opportunity to get up close with the native wildlife. Hand-feed kangaroos, wallabies, emus, and enjoy a face-to-face encounter with a friendly koala.

Overnight in Syndey

**DAY 24: 6/8 SYDNEY (B/-/-)**

This morning you will enjoy a guided half-day tour around Sydney. You will discover many points of interest including the Rocks, Sydney Opera House, and Mrs. Macquarie’s Chair for breathtaking views of the harbour and city skyline. Head on a journey to Bondi Beach, the most famous surfing beach in Australia, where you can wander along the shoreline and dip your toes into the cool ocean. Your next stop will be the entrance of the Sydney Harbour, known as the Gap. With a dramatic ocean cliff on the eastern coast of Sydney, the Gap provides breathtaking views of the coastline. Return to Sydney through the famous suburbs of Double Bay, Paddington, and Kings Cross.

After visit your guide will walk you through the famous Sydney Opera House.

Remaining day at your leisure.

Overnight in Syndey

**DAY 25: 6/9 SYDNEY – ATLANTA USA (B/-/-)**

This morning, at the pre-arranged time, you will be picked up and transferred to the Sydney International Airport for your flight home to the Atlanta airport.

**END OF OUR SERVICES**