



Australia & New Zealand Tour

November 11 -
29, 2005
\$4995 pp
(based on double occupancy)



DAY 1 HILO / HONOLULU AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

A late evening flight will take us from **Hilo** to **Honolulu** to meet our flight to **Auckland, New Zealand**.

DAY 3 AUCKLAND / SYDNEY

Our arrival in **Auckland** is just a stopover to transfer to our flight to **Sydney**. We will arrive in Sydney by late morning. After we check in, take the rest of the afternoon to relax and recover from jetlag.
Meals: Dinner

DAY 4 SYDNEY – CITY TOUR

Our tour of the city includes a stop at **Mrs. Macquarie's Chair** where we have a good view of the Opera House and have a **group photo** taken. We will drive through the 2000 Sydney Olympic site on the way to see a **live Koala Bear** up close at the **Featherdale Wildlife Park**. After the park, we will return to the city for a guided tour of **the Sydney Opera House**. The afternoon is free for a bit of shopping.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5 SYDNEY / CANBERRA MELBOURNE

We leave for the airport to catch our flight to **Canberra**. A busy day for all that includes a stop atop **Mt. Ainslie**, a tour of **Parliament House**, a drive about to see some of the **foreign embassies** and **residences**, and a visit to an **Australian sheep station**. At the station, we will see a demonstration of sheep shearing and sheep dogs working the flock.

A mid-afternoon flight takes us on to **Melbourne**.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 MELBOURNE CITY TOUR & FAIRY PENGUIN PARADE

The tour of the city will include a visit to **Captain Cook's Cottage and the Conservatory**, **Melbourne Zoo's Butterfly House and Como House** are among the sights to be seen. Before we return to the hotel for a break for lunch, we will stop at an **Opal Shop** where a short video shows us how this precious gem is mined and processed.

In the afternoon, we are off to **Phillip Island** to see the **Koala Sanctuary and the Fairy Penguin Parade** this evening. However, before seeing the penguins, a **lobster dinner** will be enjoyed by all.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7 MELBOURNE CHRISTCHURCH

We leave **Australia** today for **New Zealand**. After we complete immigration and customs formalities, we will gather our luggage and go to visit the **International Antarctic Centre**. This Centre gives visitors the opportunity to experience simulated Antarctic weather conditions and learn about the exploration efforts of the past century.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8 CHRISTCHURCH GREYMOUTH / HOKITIKA FRANZ JOSEF

We are headed southwest today to travel to the town of **Greymouth**, where we will board the **Tranzalpine Express** for a journey across the Canterbury Plains. We enter the foothills of the Southern Alps and pass through the many viaducts we encounter along the way. At **Arthur's Pass**,

the train enters a tunnel that takes us under the Alps and emerges at **Otira** on the West Coast. The rainforests surround us as we complete our trip to **Greymouth**. From here we turn southward and stop in **Hokitika** where we visit a **Greenstone(jade) Factory**. We will continue onward through open country and into areas of bush as we past scattered milling and farming areas to the township of **Franz Josef**.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9 FRANZ JOSEF – CROMWELL QUEENSTOWN

Before our journey continues southward, we will visit **Fox Glacier**. You should notice that **hapuu** or tree ferns, like those found in Hawaii, also grow here and can be seen throughout this area. At **Wanaka**, we will visit **Puzzling World** with its eccentric shaped buildings, puzzling rooms and a great maze. Then, at **Cromwell**, we will make a stop at a fruitstand for some fresh and dried fruits. You can also have ice cream with fresh fruit in it.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 10 QUEENSTOWN ARROWTOWN - SHOPPING

We make a brief stop atop **Coronet Peak** for a panoramic view of the area before we visit historic **Arrowtown** where gold was once mined. Here you can visit the **museum** and browse in the various shops. Before we return to Queenstown, we will stop for a visit at the **AJ Hackett Bungy Jump Centre** at the Kawarau Bridge.

The afternoon is free for more serious shopping and some lunch (on own). Tonight we will ride a gondola up **Bob's Peak** where Lake Wakatipu can be seen.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 11 QUEENSTOWN
MILFORD SOUND – TE ANAU**

Our destination is **Milford Sound** and to get there we travel through the **Eglinton and Hollyford Valleys** to the **Homer Tunnel**. We will cruise **Milford Sound** where we see the cascading **Bowen and Stirling Falls**, sparkling **Pembroke Glacier and Mitre Peak**. At **Seal Point**, fur seals may be seen. After the cruise, we will go to the most southerly point of our trip, **Te Anau**.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 12 TE ANAU – DUNEDIN

We will turn northeastward as we travel through more farmland before reaching **Lumsden**, then travel the **Waimea Plains** to **Gore** and on to **Balclutha** where we cross the **Clutha River**, once famous for its alluvial gold. From here we continue due north to **Milton**, cross the **Taieri River** as we reach **Dunedin**. We are greeted in the city by a collection of classic Victorian and Edwardian buildings including cathedrals, the University of Otago, **Dunedin Railway Station** and the court house.

Next is a stop at **Cadbury World**, a chocolate themed attraction and one of just three that Cadbury has around the world. It is an experience that will delight your tastebuds. Included here are the factory tour, retail outlet and visitor centre.

Tonight we will enjoy the traditional **Haggis ceremony**. It is a rousing ceremony of bagpipes, a wee dancing lass, the haggis, whiskey from Dunedin's own distillery, **Robbie Burn's** famous "address to the Haggis" and the participation of the audience.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 13 DUNEDIN – OAMARU
MOUNT COOK - TWIZEL**

As we head north, we will make a brief stop to view the unique **Moeraki Boulders**. On we go to **Oamaru** which is known for its predominantly white stone buildings. Oamaru stone is a white granular limestone that is found in this area. Next we will follow the **Waitaki River** past **Lake Benmore** and head to the town of **Omarama**. Ahead is **Twizel**, our home for the night, which is just south of **Mount Cook**, New Zealand's highest peak. Ahead at **Lake Pukaki** we will have our first good at **Mount Cook**.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 14 TWIZEL – ASHBURTON
CHRISTCHURCH**

Our first stop is at **Lake Tekapo** where we will see the **Church of the Good Shepherd and the bronze sheepdog**. Beyond the plains of the **Mackenzie Country** the road rises over **Burke's Pass** before descending to the sheep country around **Fairlie and Geraldine**. At **Ashburton**, we will stop to do a bit of shopping before going on to **Christchurch**. A visit to the **Canterbury Museum and Arts Centre** is included.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 15 CHRISTCHURCH
WELLINGTON – ROTORUA**

We will leave for **Wellington, the capitol city of New Zealand** this morning. When we arrive in Wellington, we will have a first look at the city from atop **Mt. Victoria** before seeing such sights as the **New Town Hall, the Beehive and Parliament Buildings, the National Library, Wellington Cathedral, Old St. Paul's Church, the Queen's Wharf, Victoria University and St Patrick's College**. A stop will also be made at the **Botanic Gardens** to see the **Begonia House and Rose Gardens**. An early afternoon flight takes us on to **Rotorua**.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 16 ROTORUA
MORNING TOUR**

Our first stop is at the **Whakarewarewa Maori Village and Arts and Crafts Institute**. Here we will learn a bit more about the Maori Culture as well as see a thermal area where geysers, hot springs, boiling mud and bathing pools can be seen. Next is the **Rotorua Agrodome** where we learn more about the different breeds of sheep, the wool industry, sheep shearing, a chance to milk a cow and lamb feeding. The **Rainbow Springs** will show us **rainbow, brown, tiger, and North American brook trout** as well as the **Captain Cooker**, a species of wild pig, and live **kiwi birds** in a special habitat.

The afternoon is free for you to do some more **shopping** in town before this evening's **Maori Hangi Dinner and Show** at our hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 17 ROTORUA – WAITOMO
AUCKLAND**

We will cross over the bush-clad **Mamaku Range** through the **Fitzgerald Glade** to pine forests with **Putaruru** as a centre of the timber milling industry. Next are the provincial farming centres of **Kihikihi and Otorohanga** situated in the richest dairy region of New Zealand. **Waitomo and the Waitomo Glow Worm Grotto** is our first stop today. We will have a guided tour of the **Waitomo limestone cave** and a boat ride through the darkness where the numerous insects glow reflecting off the water deep underground. A nearby fruitstand gives us a chance to see the plant that bears **kiwi fruit**.

The road runs north through **Ngaruawahia**, home to the **Maori Queen and Huntly**, one of New Zealand's most important coal mining centres. We continue on through the rolling farmlands of the dairy district of **Waikato**, its horse-breeding ranches and Auckland's vineyards.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 18 AUCKLAND – CITY TOUR

Today on our tour of the **Queen City** is a drive through downtown and waterfront areas and a stop atop **Mt. Eden** for a panoramic view of this sprawling city. We will descend through the graceful **Domain** to Auckland's **War Memorial Museum** which houses the world's finest collection of Maori artifacts. We will also visit quaint **Parnell Village** and some of the affluent residential suburbs.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 19 AUCKLAND / HONOLULU

It is time to return to **Hawaii**. Since we cross the **International Dateline** one more time and thus move back in time, we will arrive in **Honolulu** late in the evening on the day we left.

After we arrive and clear immigration and customs, we will go to our hotel at the airport for the night.

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 20 HONOLULU / HILO

With our departure for **Hilo** this morning, our tour to **Australia and New Zealand** comes to an end. We hope that you will have enjoyed your tour and returned with many happy memories and souvenirs!!!