

!
x

Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "Australia & New Zealand Explorer" (OANS), [but here are some similar trips](#).



Australia & New Zealand Explorer

22 days, Sydney to Queenstown

Trip code OANS

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Cairns

- Your Discover Moment: Franz Josef
- Private yacht sailing on the Sydney harbour and Sydney orientation walk
- Kuranda Scenic Railway to Queensland rainforest with canopy tour on a Skyrail Rainforest Cableway
- Aboriginal dreamtime walk through the Daintree Rainforest at Mossman Gorge
- Sunrise interpretive walk at Uluru
- Walk through the Valley of the Winds in Kata Tjuta
- Melbourne orientation walk and dinner on the historic Colonial tramcar restaurant
- Visit scenic Bridal Veil Falls
- Dinner cruise on Raglan harbour
- Visit a geothermal Maori village with a local guide
- Enjoy traditional Maori hangi feast and entertainment
- Orientation walk in Christchurch
- Ride the scenic TranzAlpine Train
- Queenstown gondola ride
- Wilderness day cruise (winter) or overnight wilderness cruise (summer) on Doubtful Sound
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2015 and onwards

Itinerary



Itinerary Notes

Please note that due to seasonal weather the itinerary on Day 20 in Doubtful Sound varies from winter to summer months. The winter itinerary runs for all departures between June 4 - September 20. The remaining departures will follow the summer itinerary.

NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

Sydney

Arrive at any time.

Please make your own way to the joining hotel.

If you arrive early enough, you'll have time to head into the city to visit the Botanical Gardens or the famous Opera House.

There are no planned activities during the day, so check into the hotel and explore the city.

Please try to arrive before 7pm for an important group welcome meeting where you can meet the Chief Experience Officer (CEO) and the other group members.



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Explore Sydney Harbour and walk to the iconic Opera House and the Rocks area. Enjoy an early lunch then board a sleek former America's Cup racing yacht for a thrilling sailing adventure on one of the world's finest harbours.

Meet in the early evening for an optional drink or dinner. We may head beachside to Bondi where there are plenty of excellent dining options.

The sailing excursion today is a fast paced and authentic sailing experience on a racing yacht. If you are not interested in sailing, you can opt out and enjoy your afternoon on your own.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Sailing in Sydney Harbour

Set sail in Sydney Harbour on one the America's Cup racing yachts. Wave to other passing ferries, take photos of the iconic Opera House and Sydney Harbour bridge and let the sun and wind invigorate your senses.

Metro

Sydney

Get around underground via public transit.

Day 3

Sydney/Port Douglas

Fly to Cairns then travel up the coastal road to Mossman Gorge. Take an interpretive walk with a local Aboriginal guide and learn about traditional ways of life and survival techniques in the Daintree Rainforest.

Transfer to Port Douglas, our home for the next two nights at a local resort.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Taxi

Sydney

30m-1h

Jump in the back and tell the driver to step on it, just like they do in the movies.

Plane

Sydney - Cairns

3h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Private Vehicle

Cairns - Port Douglas

1h

70km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Dreamtime Walk

Mossman Gorge

2h

Take an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest. Your experienced interpretive Indigenous guide demonstrates traditional plant use, identifies bush food sources, and provides an enchanting narrative of the rainforest and the Kuku Yalanji's special relationship with this unique tropical environment. Find out how to make bush soap, watch an ochre painting demonstration and sample some bush tea.

Day 4

Port Douglas

On Day 4, opt to go snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef.

Enjoy the colourful resort town of Port Douglas. Take time to stroll the main streets, window-shopping on your way.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Free Time

Port Douglas

Today is a free day, but we recommend going on an optional snorkelling trip of the Great Barrier Reef - the largest coral reef system in the world.



Optional Activities - Day 4

Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Cairns

Great Barrier Reef

8h-9h

Don a mask and snorkel the largest coral reef in the world, the Great Barrier Reef. Say g'day to Nemo, the clown fish, and some of the 1,500 other species of tropical fish that thrive in the warm waters off Australia's east coast.

Depending on availability of Dive Instructors, an upgrade to SCUBA diving may be possible but is by no means guaranteed. Please speak to your CEO to see if this is available.

Day 5

Port Douglas/Cairns

Return to Cairns, with free time to enjoy this tropical city.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Port Douglas - Cairns

1h

70km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.



Optional Activities - Day 5

Skydiving

Cairns

310-400AUD

2h-6h

Enjoy the awe-inspiring beauty of Cairns from an eagle's perspective. Suit up, get briefed and board the prop plane to soar high above the land and sea. Strap onto your instructor, take a breath and leap into a once-in-a-lifetime free fall. This is what a natural high truly feels like!

Take an excursion to the UNESCO-designated Queensland rainforest on the historic Kuranda Scenic Railway and explore the canopy on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Kuranda Scenic Railway

Kuranda

3h-5h

Ride the Kuranda Scenic Railway, through a lush tropical paradise framed by rugged mountains, waterfalls and ravines. Travel on authentic timber carriages between Cairns and the village of Kuranda, via hand-hewn tunnels and across towering bridges, through the awe-inspiring Barron Gorge.

Experience the exotic beauty of North Queensland's tropical rainforests, marvelling at the incredible array of plants and animals encountered all along the way.

Skyrail Rainforest Cableway

Kuranda National Park

1h30m-3h

Settle into a comfortable 6 seat gondola for a ride with a spectacular view. The Skyrail Rainforest Cableway passes over the canopy one of Australia's tropical rainforests, so close to the tree tops it's as if you could reach out and touch the leaves.

Day 7

Cairns/Uluru

Catch a flight to Uluru and witness the incredible sunset with a glass of bubbly.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Plane

Cairns - Uluru

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Free Time

Uluru

Relax and watch the sunset over Uluru

Sunset at Uluru

Uluru

1h-1h30m

Finish the day watching the sunset over Uluru. Marvel at the changing colours over the desert and keep reminding yourself that yes, you really are there.

Visit the Aboriginal Cultural Centre and take the informative Mala Walk around part of Uluru's base.

Awake before sunrise to watch the colours change over Uluru. The Mala Walk around the base of Uluru provides insight into its significance to the local Aboriginal people. Visit the cultural centre and learn about ancient beliefs and traditions portrayed in art, food and music. The afternoon is at your leisure.

Between November and March, there is extreme heat with temperatures averaging between 43-46°C (109-115°F) in the middle of Australia, especially around Uluru and Kings Canyon. This can lead to heat exhaustion and potentially become very dangerous. Be sure to drink plenty of water and replenish electrolytes by drinking sports drinks, coconut water or water mixed with electrolyte powder packets.

The Mala Walk at Uluru is not permitted if temperatures exceed 40°C (104°F). During these hot months, we try to offer all walks early in the day to avoid the midday sun. Our CEOs will monitor the weather conditions to gauge the safety of any included walks and may need to call off a given day's walk due to extreme heat.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Uluru Mala Walk

Uluru

1h-1h30m

2km

Take a guided walk along the northwest side of Uluru to learn about the history of the area, hear the stories of the Anangu people and gaze upon these awe-inspiring uplifted sandstone rock formations.

Indigenous Cultural Centre Visit

Uluru

Learn about Indigenous Australian culture in the area to get a better perspective of the history, beliefs and present-day life of the Anangu people. Discover the wild world of bush tucker (indigenous food), find out which plants are used in bush medicine, and hear creation stories.

Free Time

Uluru

Enjoy some time at leisure.

Day 9

Uluru/Alice Springs

Enjoy another sunrise over Uluru, then take a walk in Kata Tjuta National Park and view the beautiful red-domed rock formations. Continue to Alice Springs for the night.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park

Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park

1h30m-2h

Take a walk in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park to explore the beautiful, red, domed rocks that comprise the site. While Uluru is the most famous landmark in the park, we explore a bit further afield to enjoy this stunning landscape.

Minibus

Uluru - Alice Springs

6h

470km

It's bigger than a van, smaller than a bus, and just the right size for adventure.

Day 10

Alice Springs/Melbourne

Catch a flight and arrive in the afternoon. This evening, board the historic colonial tramcar diner for a fun meal while cruising around the city streets.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Taxi

Alice Springs - Alice Springs Airport

30m

Jump in the back and tell the driver to step on it, just like they do in the movies.

Plane

Alice Springs - Melbourne

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Taxi

Melbourne

30m-1h

Jump in the back and tell the driver to step on it, just like they do in the movies.

Historic Colonial Tramcar Dining

Melbourne

1h30m-3h

Board the historic colonial tramcar diner for a fun meal while cruising around the city streets of Melbourne.

Day 11

Melbourne

Enjoy a free day with option to explore the Great Ocean Road or the many wineries in the area.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Free Time

Melbourne

Free time to explore the city or take an excursion.



Optional Activities - Day 11

Great Ocean Road Day excursion

Great Ocean Road

144-195AUD

12h-13h

Enjoy an excursion along the Great Ocean Road showcasing some of Australia's most scenic coastal views.

Day 12

Melbourne/Auckland

Fly to Auckland, New Zealand and enjoy an orientation walk with the CEO.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Plane

Melbourne - Auckland

4h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Day 13

Auckland

Enjoy a free day with option to embark on a dolphin and whale watching boat excursion (seasonal) or explore the city.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Free Time

Auckland

Enjoy the city or choose from the many day excursions available.



Optional Activities - Day 13

Dolphin and Whale Watching Boat Excursion

Auckland

160NZD

Leave the city behind and head out into the waters of Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, with more than 30 major island groups, it is visited by one third of all the types of marine mammals found on earth. Take your seasickness meds and scan the horizon for some of the 22 species of whales and dolphins, including the Bryde's whale, Fin Whales, Blue Whales, Southern Right, and False Killer Whales. Look down toward the bow of the boat and you may just discover dolphins riding the wave.

Day 14

Auckland/Raglan

Take the scenic route to an artsy beach town, visiting a working eco farm en route for lunch. In the afternoon, enjoy a cruise around Raglan harbour including a light afternoon snack. Free evening in Raglan. Opt to try bone carving with local Maori, surf lessons, stand-up paddleboard lessons, sea kayaking, or simply explore the arts and crafts shops.

Travel from Auckland to Raglan, going through the world's most productive dairy farming country. Stop at a working eco farm for lunch and to learn more about local conservation efforts, then head towards to the arts and surf town of Raglan for the night.

In the afternoon, enjoy a cruise in the harbour including a light afternoon snack. Overnight in a holiday home overlooking one of the world's most famous surf breaks.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Auckland - Raglan

3h

160km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Raglan

Spend time this afternoon to enjoy all Raglan has to offer. Opt to try surfing, standup paddleboarding, sea kayaking, or bone carving with the local Maori.

Afternoon Cruise on Raglan Harbour

Raglan

1h30m-2h

Enjoy a late afternoon cruise on the Raglan Harbour with stunning views of ancient limestone rock formations and local wildlife. Keep an eye out for dolphins and (fingers crossed!) and whales, while enjoying some snacks onboard.

Free Time

Raglan

Visit the local arts and crafts shops, or enjoy the incredible scenery and surf breaks.



Optional Activities - Day 14

Surf Lesson

Raglan

89NZD

1h30m-2h

Learn how to catch a wave in this surf lesson. Start with instruction on dry land before heading into the surf. Take advantage of the large soft boards used in class (they help everyone stand up).

Bone Carving

Raglan

89NZD

3h-4h

Make your very own pendant (and souvenir) at this bone carving class. Learn the cultural significance of this craft and follow expert instruction to make a traditional Maori carving using a grinder and template.

Stand Up Paddle Lesson

Raglan

79NZD

Enjoy fantastic scenery and a great workout while stand up paddle boarding in the Raglan harbour.

Day 15

Raglan/Rotorua

Enjoy breakfast and a free morning in Raglan. Drive to Rotorua, visiting scenic Bridal Veil Falls en route, and opt to enjoy a dip in the geothermal hot pools at the hotel. This evening visit Tamaki Maori Village to learn about local myths, and legends while dining on traditional Hangi cuisine.

Rotorua sits over an active volcano with bubbling mud pits and multi-coloured pools in different areas around the town. This is a fascinating region with Maori history and culture tied directly to the geothermal aspects of the land. Relax in one of the hot pools at the hotel fed by water coming directly from the natural springs.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Free Time

Raglan

Spend the morning soaking in the vibes of this artsy town.

Private Vehicle

Raglan - Rotorua

3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Bridal Veil Falls Walk

Bridal Veil Falls

30m

Enjoy a scenic trek to Bridal Veil Falls, a plunge waterfall located along the Pakoka River in the Waikato area of New Zealand. Relax on arrival and enjoy the waterfall's breathtaking natural beauty. The waterfall is 55m (180 ft) high, and, over time, has caused the formation of a large pool at its base.

Tamaki Maori Village

Rotorua

3h-3h30m

Visit the Tamaki Maori Village. Receive the traditional Powhiri welcome ceremony followed by a captivating stage performance explaining Maori history, myths and culture. For dinner, enjoy a traditional Hangi meal, similar to the Hawaiian Luau, with dishes such as chicken, sweet potatoes (kumara), and lamb steamed over heated rocks.



Optional Activities - Day 15

Hot Springs

Rotorua

50-360NZD

Soak tired muscles in the area's natural hot springs and let the mineral water work its magic. Rotorua is home to a number of amazing geothermal parks – be sure you don't miss the healing and relaxing benefits of the city's naturally heated waters.

Day 16

Rotorua/Christchurch

This morning visit Whakarewarewa, a Maori village with a local guide who explains the geothermal aspects of the region and enjoy a light lunch of corn cooked in a natural hot pool and a traditional hangi pie. Fly to Christchurch and take an orientation walk with the CEO.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Rotorua

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Whakarewarewa Geothermal Village Visit

Rotorua

1h30m-2h

Visit an authentic Maori Geothermal Village. With a local guide, follow the path past bubbling mud pits and mineral pools with different fluorescent coloured water. Learn how geothermal energy is used around the village and hear the history of the area. Just try to ignore the sulfurous smell; that's just Mother Earth making magma magic.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Day 17

Christchurch/Franz Josef

Enjoy one of the world's great scenic train trips on the TranzAlpine Train to New Zealand's glacier region.

Board the TranzAlpine train, considered to be one of the world's great train journeys. It crosses the stunningly scenic Southern Alps, traversing the entire country. Disembark the train and transfer to a beautiful rainforest lodge for the night.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Train

Christchurch - Greymouth

4h

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Private Vehicle

Greymouth - Franz Josef

2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 18

Franz Josef

Options are plentiful, choose from a helicopter hike, ice walking on the glacier, or soaking in the hot pools amongst the stunning scenery.

Opt for various hiking adventures in the area, the most popular being a glacier trek. If relaxing is more your style, there are shorter day hikes and bush walks or local hot pools to take a dip.



Meals included

Breakfast



Optional Activities - Day 18

Franz Josef Quad Bike

Franz Josef

65-160NZD

Hop aboard the two-seater ATV quad and drive along ancient glacial pathways carved into the landscape by ice and water. Be amazed at what lies around every twist and turn as you are guided through rainforests, riverbeds, grasslands, sand and mud. Feel the thrill of fresh air in your face and the excitement of riding in the wild.

Heli Scenic Flight with Snow Landing

Franz Josef

385-655NZD

15m-30m

Take a once-in-a-lifetime helicopter ride high up on Franz Josef Glacier. Hop out on the snow to soak up the experience, before flying back to land. Cool!

Day 19

Franz Josef/Queenstown

Travel through the rugged rainforest along the west coast to Queenstown. Enjoy an evening gondola ride with spectacular views of the city and option to eat dinner at a skyline restaurant.

Early start to travel to the picturesque Lake Matheson. When the weather is right, you can get a great photo of the Southern Alps reflected in the lake. Follow the wild West Coast Road, through the rainforest before stopping for some short walks and waterfall visits.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Franz Josef - Queenstown

8h-9h

420km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Gondola Ride

Queenstown

1h-2h30m

Take a ride up to the top of the mountain by cable car gondola. Get a spectacular 220° view of Coronet Peak, the Remarkables mountain range, and Lake Wakatipu below.

Embark on an amazing wilderness cruise through Doubtful Sound with the chance to see dolphins, fur seals, birds and penguins and an option to kayak. We spend the night onboard in comfortable cabins with time to relax on deck, stargazing and enjoying some New Zealand wine.

Drive the scenic route around the lake to the town of Manapouri, to arrive at an eco cruise boat which will be our home for the next 24 hours. After an afternoon of stunning scenery, spend the night moored in a secluded bay (seasonal), with time to stargaze from the deck with a glass of New Zealand wine

*Please note that the itinerary for this day varies in the winter:

Winter Schedule 18 May – 20 Sept Doubtful Sound/Te Anau

Drive the scenic route around the lake to the town of Manapouri. Travel by boat and bus to arrive at an eco cruise boat. Spend the afternoon cruising the stunning Doubtful Sound, one of the most untouched, remote places in the world. Marvel at the steep cliff walls and cascading waterfalls. The boat offers excellent chances for wildlife viewing in the area.

Dolphins, penguins, seals and a variety of birds are some examples of what you can hope to see. In the evening, head to Te Anau for the night. We take in a screening of the award winning 'Ata Whenua – Shadowland' Fjordland on Film documentary at the local cinema before having a group meal.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Queenstown – Doubtful Sound

3h

250km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Fiordland National Park Overnight Wilderness Cruise

Fiordland National Park

24h

Cruise through stunning Fiordland National Park, one of the most untouched, remote places in the world. Depending on the departure, the cruise will be in either Milford Sound or Doubtful Sound – two of the most stunning regions within the park. Marvel at the steep cliff walls and cascading waterfalls, and keep an eye out for area wildlife: dolphins, penguins, seals, and a variety of birds. Want to get closer to the water? Feel free to use one of the boats' sea kayaks to explore the area more in-depth.

After the day, moor at a secluded bay for the night, and sit back and relax on the spacious viewing decks.

Day 21

Doubtful Sound/Queenstown

Cruise back to port, enjoying the stunning views then return to Queenstown for the final night.

Enjoy the morning on the boat before return to Queenstown late afternoon and opt for a farewell dinner with your group.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Doubtful Sound – Queenstown

3h

250km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Depart at any time.

If you want more time to explore Queenstown, we recommend booking post nights with your agent if you are interested in the countless adrenaline-packed activities in the town known as the 'adventure capital of the world'. Jet boating, bungy jumping, mountain biking, and sky diving are some of the activities available.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Cairns
- Your Discover Moment: Franz Josef
- Private yacht sailing on the Sydney harbour and Sydney orientation walk
- Kuranda Scenic Railway to Queensland rainforest with canopy tour on a Skyrail Rainforest Cableway
- Aboriginal dreamtime walk through the Daintree Rainforest at Mossman Gorge
- Sunrise interpretive walk at Uluru
- Walk through the Valley of the Winds in Kata Tjuta
- Melbourne orientation walk and dinner on the historic Colonial tramcar restaurant
- Visit scenic Bridal Veil Falls
- Dinner cruise on Raglan harbour
- Visit a geothermal Maori village with a local guide
- Enjoy traditional Maori hangi feast and entertainment
- Orientation walk in Christchurch

- Ride the scenic TranzAlpine Train
- Queenstown gondola ride
- Wilderness day cruise (winter) or overnight wilderness cruise (summer) on Doubtful Sound
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Learn about Aboriginal and Maori myths and traditions with local experts, ride the rails on 2 historic trains, explore an ancient rainforest by foot and canopy cable car, revitalize yourself in geothermal pools, enjoy an overnight cruise through remote Doubtful Sound in search of wildlife, cover more ground with included internal flights

Itinerary Notes

Please note that due to seasonal weather the itinerary on Day 20 in Doubtful Sound varies from winter to summer months. The winter itinerary runs for all departures between June 4 - September 20. The remaining departures will follow the summer itinerary.

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Learn about Aboriginal and Maori myths and traditions with local experts, ride the rails on 2 historic trains, explore an ancient rainforest by foot and canopy cable car, revitalize yourself in geothermal pools, enjoy an overnight cruise through remote Doubtful Sound in search of wildlife, cover more ground with included internal flights

Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Are there Itinerary notes?

Please note that due to seasonal weather the itinerary on Day 20 in Doubtful Sound varies from winter to summer months. The winter itinerary runs for all departures between June 4 - September 20. The remaining departures will follow the summer itinerary.

What is the group leader like?

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The CEO will be the group manager, leader and driver - this person is experienced in the routes travelled and will organize and lead the meal preparations and has experience in cooking a variety of local and international dishes for large groups.

As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. While not being guides in the traditional sense, you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

How large will the group be?

Max 16, Avg 12.

What meals are included in this trip?

21 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. On truck trips in Africa, aboard the M/S Expedition or our Galapagos yachts, while trekking in remote regions etc. food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Mini-bus, flight, train, boat, walking.

What transportation will we take on this trip?

Our vans are mini-coaches. Occasionally with smaller group sizes we will use smaller, equally comfortable 13-seater vehicles. All mini-coaches tow a trailer for luggage and camping equipment (when needed). All groups have one CEO/Driver.

The vehicles are factory built with comfortable seats and air-conditioning. It is mandatory to wear a seatbelt while riding in our vehicles.

Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

All internal flights are included in this trip (including 1 flight between Australia and New Zealand) - Your CEO will give you your ticket on the day of flight.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Comfort hotels (19 nts), local holiday home (1 nt), cruise boat (1 nt).

Do any exceptions apply to Rooming or “My Own Room” on my tour?

Day 20 Doubtful Sound cruise

What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

Doubtful Sound Eco cruise

Designed along the lines of a traditional scow, the Fiordland Navigator blends old world charm with modern comforts that include spacious viewing decks, a dining saloon/fully licensed bar and an observation lounge. As you cruise through some of the fiord's most stunning scenery, our knowledgeable nature guides will provide commentary ensuring you miss nothing, be it the pod of resident dolphins, fur seals or rare penguins you might encounter.

After dropping anchor in a sheltered cove, you can choose to explore the shoreline by kayak or tender boat or to simply relax onboard. For the more adventurous (or very brave), there's even a chance to go swimming!

In the evening, enjoy a delicious three course buffet dinner prepared by our onboard chef and served in the dining saloon. Mingle with fellow travellers, savour some of the fine wines at our licensed bar and if the skies are clear in the evening, spend some time on the upper deck gazing at the stars.

Kick off the next day with a hearty cooked breakfast and spend the rest of the morning exploring other parts of the fiord. You then return to Deep Cove for the trip back to Manapouri.

- Three-course buffet dinner & cooked breakfast
- Includes kayaking and tendercraft (small boat) activities
- Private cabins with ensuite bathrooms and limited quad share bunk - style compartments
- Sleeps 70
- Spacious viewing decks, dining saloon, licensed bar and observation lounge

The Fiordland Navigator is a purpose built vessel designed to replicate a traditional trading scow and is perfectly suited to cruising the fiords.

What is the joining hotel?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

What are the joining instructions?

An arrival transfer is not included on this trip. Please make your own way to the joining hotel. A group meeting will be held by your CEO this evening. Please check the notice board in the hotel lobby for the time and details.

It is very easy to make your way from the airport to the hotel. Options are as follows:

By Taxi: \$40-50, approximately 15km and shouldn't take more than 30 minutes.

By Shuttle Bus: \$16 pp. Buy tickets at the 'Sydney Airporter' bus desk between exit gates B & C. Alternatively, there is the 'Airport Connect' service in the same location. Book tickets online at www.airportconnect.com.au/

What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact G Adventures during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our local office in Melbourne. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so we may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office and after office hours emergency number

From outside Australia: +61 432 705 621

From within Australia: 0432 705 621

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local operations manager, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

The max luggage allowance on domestic flights within Australia is 20 kgs, 1 checked bag and 1 carry on per person.

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible. We recommend the use of a well-labeled duffel bag, soft bag or backpack (whichever you find easiest to carry). Suitcases or heavy luggage are not recommended for the health of the CEO! A good size day-pack (20-35L) is also essential as you will have the chance to walk and hike in different national parks during these trips. This daypack will be used to carry your personal gear for the day, your lunch and a water bottle.

For days in the outdoors, we recommend the use of lightweight, breathable, moisture-wicking fabrics made of wool or synthetic fibers. Cotton is not recommended for days spent hiking as it does not allow for heat or moisture to enter or escape, and it will not dry easily once wet.

What should be on my packing list?

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry can be done at least once a week while on tour - most cities have laundromats where you can buy soap and wash your laundry in coin-operated machines. Your CEO will advise you along the trip where you will be able to do your laundry.

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

The Australian currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD) and currency in New Zealand is the New Zealand Dollar (NZD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in both countries and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card you may be charged additional fees by your credit card company for foreign purchases.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Both Visa and Master Cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work check with your bank before you travel. A visit to an ATM can be arranged on Day 1 and other days of the trip.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of local currency (preferably smaller bills, 5's, 10's and 20's) and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is easy to find in New Zealand in the gateway cities and most banks do accommodate.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates:
www.xe.com

How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Should I be tipping on my trip?

It is not customary in New Zealand or Australia to tip service providers, but if you do experience outstanding service it is good to do so. Such service would only usually be in places like quality restaurants and it would be very rare that you would tip more than 10%. Unless specifically asked to do so at the time (by your CEO) - do not tip your local guides. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures Chief Experience Officer did an outstanding job, you may consider a small tip - but it certainly isn't expected.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Great Barrier Reef

- Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Cairns

Cairns

- Skydiving (310-400AUD per person)

Great Ocean Road

- Great Ocean Road Day excursion (144-195AUD per person)

Auckland

- Dolphin and Whale Watching Boat Excursion (160NZD per person)

Raglan

- Surf Lesson (89NZD per person)
- Bone Carving (89NZD per person)
- Stand Up Paddle Lesson (79NZD per person)

Rotorua

- Hot Springs (50-360NZD per person)

Franz Josef

- Franz Josef Quad Bike (65-160NZD per person)
- Heli Scenic Flight with Snow Landing (385-655NZD per person)

Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical ratings for trip specific information.

What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. Read more about travel safety for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What are the trip specific safety considerations?

Heed the caution signs at all times in National Parks and other remote areas in New Zealand and Australia.

Between November and March, there is extreme heat with temperatures averaging between 43-46°C in the middle of Australia, especially around Uluru. This can lead to heat exhaustion and potentially become very dangerous. Be sure to drink plenty of water and replenish electrolytes by drinking sports drinks, coconut water or water mixed with electrolyte powder packets. Our CEOs have been trained in first aid and are well-versed in the risks associated with this heat.

As a result of this heat some included walks may be closed in the interests of travellers health. Certain walks around central Australia including Uluru and Kata Tjuta are closed when weather is forecast to exceed 36°C. During these hot months, we will endeavour to offer all walks early in the day to avoid the heat. Our CEOs will monitor the weather conditions to gauge the safety of any included walks and may need to call off a given day's walk due to extreme heat.

What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEO has the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.