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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "Best of the Red Centre & Eastern Australia" (OAMS), [but here are some similar trips](#).

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This itinerary is valid for all 2019 departures. To view the itinerary for departures beginning in January 2020, [click here](#).



Last Updated: January 10, 2020



Best of the Red Centre & Eastern Australia

25 days, Melbourne to Sydney

Trip code OAMS

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Wine Tasting, Clare Valley
- Your Discover Moment: Byron Bay
- Melbourne laneways walk
- Brighton bathing boxes visit
- Rainforest walk in Great Otway NP
- 12 Apostles visit
- Loch Ard Gorge Visit
- Hike at Grampians NP

- Tower Hill State Wildlife Reserve Visit
- Blue Mountains stay with hikes
- Brambuk Aboriginal Cultural Centre Visit
- Jenolan Caves visit
- Wilpena Pound visit
- Scenic Railway
- Underground mine tour (Coober Pedy)
- Jamison Valley walk
- Champagne sunset viewing of Uluru
- Orientation walk in Sydney
- Mala Walk around Uluru and cultural centre visit
- Free time in Cairns, Byron Bay, and Sydney
- Guided Daintree Rainforest walk
- Internal flights
- Whitsunday Islands sailing excursion
- 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 June 7th, 2019 and onwards

Itinerary



Itinerary Notes

Please note that due to operational reasons the Nov 10, 2019 and Dec 15, 2019 departures of Best of the Red Centre & Eastern Australia will be staying in Kingscliff instead of Byron Bay. Please see the full itinerary for additional details.

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

Melbourne

Arrive at any time.

There are no planned activities during the day, so check into the hotel and explore the city. If you arrive early enough, head into the city to take in the 'cultural capital of Australia'. Get lost in the city's famous laneways, go on the hunt for the perfect flat white (hint: Melbourne loves its coffee shops), catch the tram to St. Kilda, or wander around the über-cool Fitzroy neighbourhood.



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.

Tour Melbourne's iconic laneways and learn more about coffee culture before travelling to the Mornington Peninsula. Stop to see Brighton's brightly coloured bathing boxes, miniature beachfront cabins that are unique to the beaches in Port Phillip Bay.

Although fairly small in size, the Mornington Peninsula packs a big punch with the amount of things to do here. Be awed with the stunning coastal scenery while driving through quaint towns and past stunning beaches.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Melbourne Laneways Walk

Melbourne

1h30m-2h

Discover the small laneways packed with shops, cafés and restaurants that make Melbourne so unique. Grab a delicious barista coffee to-go (which no trip to Melbourne would be complete without!), and set out to experience Melbourne's laneways with an expert local host. Journey through this 'secret city,' seeing local hotspots and incredible street art while learning about the city's history.

Private Vehicle

Melbourne - Mornington Peninsula

2h

100km

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

Bathing Boxes Visit

Brighton

Stop to check out some of the famous bathing boxes that Port Phillip Bay is known for. These one-room "mini-cabins" are owned by families to store belongings on their favourite beach. Snap some photos of these brightly coloured boxes and breathe in the fresh ocean air.

Day 3

Mornington Peninsula

Enjoy a free day in the Mornington Peninsula. Opt to visit a winery or hit one of the many incredible beaches in the area.



Today's Activities

Free Time

Mornington Peninsula

Get out and explore the stunning Mornington Peninsula.



Optional Activities - Day 3

Wine Tour

Mornington Peninsula

Visit some local wineries to taste locally produced vino. The Mornington Peninsula is famed for its Pinot Noir, but the 50 plus wineries in the region produce over 200 different wines... bottoms up!

Day 4

Mornington Peninsula/Port Campbell

Hop on a ferry to Queenscliff before spending the day travelling along the Great Ocean Road. Pass world-famous surf beaches, enjoy views of the 12 Apostles, and walk through the rainforest in Great Otway National Park.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Mornington Peninsula – Sorrento

30m

20km

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

Ferry

Queenscliff – Sorrento

1h

15km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Private Vehicle

Queenscliff – Port Campbell

8h

Enjoy the stunning scenery while driving along the Great Ocean Road, stopping at the highlights along the way.

Rainforest Walk

Great Otway National Park

30m

1km

Take in the beautiful greenery of the Great Otway National Park on a leisurely walk with your CEO.

Twelve Apostles Visit

Port Campbell National Park

45m-1h

Stop at a scenic lookout point along the Great Ocean Road and capture the beautiful views over the ocean and the Twelve Apostles. Now with only seven formations still standing, these iconic attractions were once limestone caves which eroded to become arches and eventually stacks up to 45m (147 ft) in height.

Loch Ard Gorge Visit

Port Campbell National Park

15m-30m

Located along the Great Ocean Road, beautiful Loch Ard Gorge shows the process of erosion in action. See offshore stacks and blowholes, and watch short tailed shearwaters soar over the nearby island. This location is a perfect backdrop for a group photo. Get snapping!



Optional Activities - Day 4

Helicopter Ride

The Twelve Apostles

145AUD

A series of limestone cliffs stretching into the ocean, the 12 Apostles is one of the most iconic sites in Victoria. Get a birds eye view of these massive rock columns and watch the swells of the ocean crash into them from above. Prepare to be awed by the sheer size of these cliffs and one of Australia's most famous coastlines.

Travel inland to Grampians National Park, known for its sandstone mountain range and impressive rock art. Trek through the forest, lush with vegetation and wildlife. Walk to the stunning Balconies and visit MacKenzie Falls.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Port Campbell - Grampians National Park

3h

260km

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

Tower Hill State Wildlife Reserve Visit

Tower Hill

15m-30m

Visit Tower Hill State Wildlife Reserve west of Warrnambool for a chance to see animals endemic to Australia such as koalas, emus and kangaroos. Learn more about this large volcanic crater and wetland and the role it plays in Indigenous history. Set off on one of the self-guided walking paths, then visit the Worn Gundidj Centre to see cultural displays and crafts.

The Balconies (Jaws of Death) Visit

Grampians National Park

1h

2km

Set off from the Reed Lookout overlooking Victoria Valley, and enjoy a short walk with beautiful scenery to the Balconies, formerly called the Jaws of Death. Check out the gorgeous view, but be careful not to lean too far over the edge!

MacKenzie Falls Visit

Grampians National Park

30m-1h

MacKenzie Falls is the only waterway in the region that flows year-round and it is also the most visited waterfall in the Grampians; take a short walk and check out the falls out from a viewing platform. In Spring, see wonderful wildflowers in bloom along the path.

Private Vehicle

Grampians National Park - Halls Gap

30m-1h

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

Day 6

Halls Gap/Adelaide

Visit the Brambuk Indigenous Cultural Centre before continuing on to Adelaide. The CEO will point out important highlights of the city while driving in, before free time to explore the city.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Brambuk Indigenous Cultural Centre Visit

Halls Gap

30m

Dive in to 'Dreamtime' and experience the stories, food and art of Australia's Indigenous peoples. Attempt to blow into a didgeridoo, paint and then throw a boomerang, or go on a guided walk through gardens planted with native herbs and plants. Head to the Bushfoods cafe and sample the local delicacies -- kangaroo, emu, and crocodile. Anyone still hungry?

Private Vehicle

Halls Gap - Adelaide

6h-6h30m

500km

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

Orientation Drive

Drive around to spot some of the main highlights of the area.



Optional Activities - Day 6

Grampians National Park Visit

Grampians National Park

Free

1h-5h

3-8km

Walk past lookouts, sandstone ridges and other various rock formations. Be rewarded with sweeping views of the natural landscape.

Day 7

Adelaide/Ikara-Flinders Ranges

Stop in the Clare Valley for a wine tasting and light gourmet lunch featuring regional produce. Afterwards, drive through the Flinders Ranges.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Stop by a local winery and sample some of the different grape varieties while learning a bit more about wine production and its history in the Clare Valley. Try some Riesling, the local favourite (considered the best in Australia, if not the world), along with some Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz.

Private Vehicle

Adelaide - Ikara-Flinders Ranges

6h

440km

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

Day 8

Ikara-Flinders Ranges

Visit Wilpena Pound, a 800-million-year old natural amphitheatre, before enjoying free time for optional activities in the Flinders Ranges like hiking or a 4WD tour of the rugged area.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Free Time

Ikara-Flinders Ranges

Take the day to explore the amazing scenery of Flinders Ranges.

Wilpena Pound Visit

Wilpena Pound

Visit the incredible Wilpena Pound amphitheatre, carved out of the Flinders Ranges over 800 million years ago. Explore the ancient landscapes and take in the impressive landscape in this part of the Flinders Ranges NP.



Optional Activities - Day 8

Wilpena Pound Hike

Wilpena Pound

Free

1h-3h

2-7km

Enjoy nature's 800 million-year-old natural amphitheater carved out of the mountains in the Ikara-Flinders Ranges NP. Visit Indigenous art sites and learn more about the history and customs of the Adnyamathanha people who have lived here for tens of thousands of years. Keep an eye out for emus, kangaroos, and if you are lucky, the threatened yellow footed rock wallaby.

Mountain Biking

Ikara-Flinders Ranges

Get on two wheels to explore the rugged landscape of Ikara-Flinders Ranges NP.

Flinders Ranges Helicopter Ride

Ikara-Flinders Ranges

95-270AUD

Take to the air for a helicopter ride over the impressive Flinders Ranges. With a variety of flight options to choose from, opt to check out Rawnsley Bluffs, Wilpena Pound, or the Chace Range.

Flinders Ranges 4WD Tour

Ikara-Flinders Ranges

105-295AUD

Strap in for a 4WD tour of the Flinders Ranges. Encounter spectacular scenery, Aussie wildlife, and learn about the regions rich geological history, all while getting a thrilling ride!

Day 9

Ikara-Flinders Ranges/Coober Pedy

Travel to Coober Pedy, the world's opal mining capital. After a guided tour of a mine, escape the heat like the locals by spending the night underground.

Travel to the unique opal mining town of Coober Pedy, where people live underground to avoid the heat. A guided mine tour gives insight to the mining process and the importance of opals to the area.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Ikara-Flinders Ranges - Coober Pedy

8h

700km

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

Guided Mine Tour

Coober Pedy

1h

Learn about opals and Coober Pedy's mining history on a tour of an old opal mine. See examples of both hand-dug and machine-dug underground homes, which are a popular way to escape the heat.

Day 10

Coober Pedy/Uluru

Travel further into the Outback and experience a colourful sunset at Uluru with a glass of bubbly in hand.

Cross the border into the Northern Territory, where Australia's most iconic view awaits.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Coober Pedy - Uluru

9h

750km

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

Uluru at Sunset

Uluru

30m-1h

Enjoy a glass of bubbly, and watch the setting sun transform Uluru into a glowing monolith bathed in deep reds and oranges. Capture the moment with your camera but also take a moment to soak in the serenity of the scene just with your own eyes. Magic!

Enjoy the Mala Walk at Uluru to learn the importance of the rock to the Aborigines.



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.



Optional Activities - Day 11

Uluru & Kata Tjuta Helicopter Ride

Uluru

To fully appreciate the sheer size and splendor of Uluru, you need to experience it from above. Get a bird's eye view of the iconic red rock, and take in the vast expanses of desert surrounding the 'Heart of the Red Centre'. This is one ride you don't want to miss!

Sounds of Silence Dinner

Uluru

Enjoy a decadent three-course dinner while watching the sunset over Uluru. Try traditional bush tucker inspired food, including crocodile, kangaroo and barramundi, while listening to a didgeridoo performance as day turns to night. After dinner, learn more about the southern night sky during an astronomy tour with a local expert – prepared to be dazzled by the incredible clarity of the outback sky from this remote location.

Outback Astronomy Tour

Uluru

60-70AUD

Enjoy a tour of the night sky, learning how Indigenous people of Australia used the stars for mythology and seasonal predictions while getting a chance to stargaze through telescopes and binoculars. The Outback is one of the best places to stargaze, with low humidity and surrounding light - take a peek and see whats out there!

Day 12

Uluru/Cairns

Fly to the oceanside city of Cairns, the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Plane

Uluru - Cairns

4h

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



Optional Activities - Day 12

Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos

You may be a seasoned pro at group travel by now, but there will likely be some new travellers joining the group. Sit in on the welcome meeting to meet the newest members of your group and learn about the next leg of your tour.

Day 13

Cairns/Cape Tribulation

Head north to Cape Tribulation. Stop en route to explore Mossman Gorge and take an interpretive walk through the Daintree Rainforest.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Cairns - Cape Tribulation

3h30m

140km

Travel 1.5 hrs to Mossman Gorge. Later, continue 2 hrs to Cape Tribulation.

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.

With a free day, opt for a trip to the Great Barrier Reef or to explore Daintree National Park.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Free Time

Cape Tribulation

Head out and start exploring.



Optional Activities - Day 14

Great Barrier Reef Visit

Cape Tribulation

217AUD

Hop on a boat and head out to sea to reach the world-famous Great Barrier Reef. Don a mask and opt to snorkel the largest coral reef in the world. 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.

Daintree National Park Visit

Cape Tribulation

Free

Step back in time in this lush tropical rainforest, reported to be more than 110 million years old! Bring your binoculars to spot some of the 430 species of birds, including the buff-breasted paradise kingfisher and flightless cassowary. On the ground, look for possums, bandicoots, echidna and musky rat kangaroo. Discover why the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people consider this a spiritual and cultural significant place.

Cape Tribulation Horseback Riding

Cape Tribulation

110AUD

2h-2h30m

Hop in the saddle and explore the rainforest on your trusty steed. Ride through lush canopy floors and crystal clear streams, ending up on the stunning Myall beach. Cap off this adventure by galloping through the ocean spray!

Daintree Rainforest Night Walk

Cape Tribulation

55AUD

Once the sun goes down, grab a torch and head out into the jungle for a guided night walk. With your guide you'll spot various critters who call this region home. Keep your eyes peeled for sleeping bats, birds, lizards and spiders as you listen to the sounds of the rainforest at night.

Day 15

Cape Tribulation/Cairns

Return to Cairns in the afternoon with free time to explore this laid-back city.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Cape Tribulation - Cairns

3h30m

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

Free Time

Cairns

Make the most of a few hours in this city.

Day 16

Cairns/Airlie Beach

Depart early for a full day of travel to reach Airlie Beach with time to explore the town.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Cairns - Airlie Beach

9h-10h

623km

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

Day 17

Airlie Beach

Set sail for a day in the Whitsunday Islands, visiting the Great Barrier Reef. Opt to swim or snorkel, and hike to an island lookout over Whitehaven Beach, known for its stunning white sand. Return to Airlie Beach for the night.



Meals included

Lunch



Today's Activities

Whitsunday Islands Boating Excursion

Whitsunday Island

8h

Enjoy a day out on the water amidst some of the 74 tropical islands that make up the Whitsunday archipelago. Visit Whitehaven Beach, jump overboard for a quick refreshing dip, and make friends with the tropical fish that thrive within Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Barrier Reef Visit

Whitsunday Island

The Whitsunday Islands are in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef. Spend the day out on a boat cruising through the waters around the islands. Then, when it gets too hot, pull on a mask and snorkel and dive overboard to check out the variety of brightly coloured marine plants, coral and fish that thrive right in these warm tropical waters.



Optional Activities - Day 17

Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling

Whitsunday Islands

Free

30m-1h

Take advantage of the included snorkel gear, throw on a mask and see what lives in the Great Barrier Reef. (Note that fins are not provided in order to adhere with local coral conservation efforts.)

Day 18

Airlie Beach/Byron Bay

Fly to Brisbane and transfer to Byron Bay for two nights in this "hippie" paradise.



Today's Activities

Plane

Airlie Beach - Brisbane

2h30m

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

Private Vehicle

Brisbane - Byron Bay

2h-2h30m

200km

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

Spend the day wandering the town or taking part in a multitude of optional activities like skydiving, visiting Cape Byron Lighthouse, or relaxing on the beach.

Pre-book the "Byron Bay Ocean Kayaking" activity on the checkout page ahead of time to include this optional experience on your tour.



Optional Activities - Day 19

Whale Watching

Byron Bay

89AUD

2h30m-3h

Enjoy a thrilling excursion on the water in search of the magnificent Humpback whales. Between June and November, they migrate north from their feeding grounds in Antarctica to breed and birth in the tropics. See the distinctive flukes (tails), and also look for dolphins, turtles and a variety of sea birds.

Hinterland and Minyon Falls Tour

Byron Bay

139AUD

Head inland to Nightcap National Park, a subtropical rainforest in part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area, for a 2-hour guided walk through the rainforest to beautiful Minyon Falls. After a refreshing swim at the base of the 100m falls, visit the quaint town of Bangalow, the oldest town in the region and known for its historic storefronts. After perusing local shops and cafés, enjoy the drive back to Byron Bay, passing through historic towns and beautiful scenery. Locally sourced barbecue lunch included.

Cape Byron Lighthouse Visit

Cape Byron

Free

30m-2h

Cape Byron Lighthouse is 3km (1.9 mi) northeast of Byron Bay. The popular white structure emits the most powerful light of all working lighthouses in the country, and it's also located at the most easterly point of the Australian continent. Head up to the top of the tower to scan the ocean for whales (the Southern Cross University's Whale Research Centre is located here).

Byron Bay Ocean Kayaking

Byron Bay

Slice through the waters of the iconic Byron Bay in the morning on this half-day kayaking adventure. Paddle past the most easterly point of the Australian mainland, see the Julian Rocks Marine Reserve, and ride the waves into shore. On top of it all, keep a close eye for dolphins and whales (in season) who call these waters home. Epic? Definitely.

This activity is in the ocean and conditions can sometimes be rough due to weather. This is a very fun activity but first time kayakers may find this challenging.

Day 20

Byron Bay/Port Macquarie

Hit the waves with an included surf lesson. Head to the coastal township of Port Macquarie, featuring all the beauty of the beach set alongside gorgeous national parks. Enjoy an evening in Port Macquarie.



Today's Activities

Surfing Lesson

Byron Bay

3h

Hit the beach and get ready to hang ten with a surf lesson from trained surf instructors. Spend some time in the water getting friendly with the waves, practice paddling, then pop up to balance on the wider, softer beginner boards. Too easy.

Private Vehicle

Byron Bay – Port Macquarie

5h

397km

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

Day 21

Port Macquarie/Blue Mountains

En route to the Blue Mountains, opt to stop at the Koala Hospital to learn about vital wildlife conservation work in the area.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Port Macquarie - Blue Mountains

6h-7h

500km

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



Optional Activities - Day 21

Koala Hospital Visit

Port Macquarie

2AUD

Visit the Koala Hospital, learn about these unique creatures and even adopt your very own Koala!

Explore the area around Leura and Katoomba including the Three Sisters. Visit the Jenolan Caves, take a walk in Jamison Valley, and ride on the Scenic Railway, the steepest railway in the world.



Today's Activities

Jenolan Caves Tour

Blue Mountains

1h30m-2h

Jenolan Caves are a protected feature of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains. These limestone karst caves are the world's oldest caves and are significant both a scientific and sightseeing perspective. Enjoy a guided tour in the cool climes of this fascinating underworld.

Scenic Railway

Blue Mountains

This railway is steep and plunges into the rainforest and through the valley. The ride is scenically stunning. At the end, opt to take a rainforest walk or a cable car back to the visitor's centre.

Jamison Valley Walk

Blue Mountains

1h-2h30m

1km

Take in some amazing lookouts over the Jamison Valley, via the iconic Three Sisters. Descend down the 900 step giant staircase to the valley floor. Walk amongst the beautiful forest to the steepest incline railway in the world – The Katoomba Scenic Railway. Opt to ride its 52-degree angle or take the Scenic Cableway. If you're keen for more walking, and time permitting, take the 900 stairs back up.

Blue Mountains Excursion

Blue Mountains

With charming Leura as your base, explore the major attractions of the Blue Mountains from sightseeing to bushwalking to cafés and more.



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Blue Mountains - Sydney

2h

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

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.

Free Time

Sydney

Get out and explore.



Optional Activities - Day 23

Sydney Opera House Visit

Sydney

50-199AUD

Stroll along the waterfront to admire Sydney's most iconic landmark, designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon and opened by Queen Elizabeth 11 in 1973. Take a guided tour of this UNESCO World Heritage site to discover its history, folklore, and more. Some two million people a year come to see concerts and cultural performances Opera House. Catch the boom of the grand organ—with more than 10,000 pipes, it took 10 years to build and is the largest mechanical organ in the world.

Day 24

Sydney

Get a feel for the city. Relax seaside at Bondi Beach. Enjoy an optional night out with the group.



Today's Activities

Free Time

Sydney

Enjoy a free day to explore one of Australia's most exciting cities.



Optional Activities - Day 24

Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb

Sydney

385-415None

3h-4h

Climb one of the most famous bridges in the world – the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Soak in amazing panoramic city views of Sydney at the top – a perfect photo opp and memory to take home with you!

Coogee Beach to Bondi Beach Coastal Walk

Coogee Beach – Bondi Beach

Go for a walk along one of the most iconic trails in Australia. Pass by secluded beaches, massive cliffs, and more breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean than imaginable – all before arriving at the world-famous Bondi Beach. From May to December, keep a keen eye on the ocean to try and spot migrating humpback whales.

Jet Boat Ride

Sydney

85AUD

Want an adrenaline rush? A jet boat is the way to go. Hold on and get ready for a white-water thrill while gorgeous scenery whizzes past. Explore Sydney Harbour, jetting by the Opera House, Harbour Islands and more!

Sydney Opera House Visit

Sydney

50-199AUD

Stroll along the waterfront to admire Sydney's most iconic landmark, designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon and opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1973. Take a guided tour of this UNESCO World Heritage site to discover its history, folklore, and more. Some two million people a year come to see concerts and cultural performances at the Opera House. Catch the boom of the grand organ – with more than 10,000 pipes, it took 10 years to build and is the largest mechanical organ in the world.

Sydney Adrenaline Bundle

Sydney

Admire the city from new perspectives with this Adrenaline Bundle. Start with a climb to the top of Sydney Harbour Bridge – 134m (440 ft) above sea level! Learn the story of the bridge from an expert guide and soak in the epic views. Next, board a jet boat and enjoy the thrill of spins, slides, and fish tails, spotting iconic landmarks like the Opera House, Taronga Zoo, and Shark Island along the way. Book this Adrenaline Bundle and save on both activities.

Day 25

Sydney

Depart at any time.



Today's Activities

Departure Day

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



Optional Activities - Day 25

Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb

Sydney

385-415None

3h-4h

Climb one of the most famous bridges in the world – the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Soak in amazing panoramic city views of Sydney at the top – a perfect photo opp and memory to take home with you!

What's included

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Discover the hidden laneways of Melbourne, marvel at the 12 Apostles along the Great Ocean Road, spend the night in an underground hotel, catch the magnificent colours of Uluru at sunset, trek through Mossman Gorge in the Daintree Rainforest, sail through the gorgeous Whitsundays, hang ten in Byron Bay, explore the Blue Mountains by foot

Itinerary Notes

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Discover the hidden laneways of Melbourne, marvel at the 12 Apostles along the Great Ocean Road, spend the night in an underground hotel, catch the magnificent colours of Uluru at sunset, trek through Mossman Gorge in the Daintree Rainforest, sail through the gorgeous Whitsundays, hang ten in Byron Bay, explore the Blue Mountains by foot

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

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

Are there Itinerary notes?

Please note that due to operational reasons the Nov 10, 2019 and Dec 15, 2019 departures of Best of the Red Centre & Eastern Australia will be staying in Kingscliff instead of Byron Bay. Please see the full itinerary for additional details.

What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

1. Please be aware that wifi and internet access is not as readily available in Australia as in other parts of the world. There are often additional charges to connect to the internet, and speeds may be slower than what you are used to.

2. Over public holidays in Australia and New Zealand (such as Christmas, New Years Day, Easter, and Anzac Day) there may be some limitations of services and disruptions to schedules. In general our tours still operate effectively over public holidays, but there may be closures of optional activities and restaurants, and slight itinerary adjustments in order to provide all tour inclusions.

3. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this trip is a combination of multiple G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and/or particular vehicles operating your tour may change between tour segments. You may also expect some group members to join or leave the tour, between tour segments.

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?

15 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. 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. Our groups tend to eat together for most meals but there is no obligation to so. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip.

On this trip we include one local breakfast experience. We love checking out what the locals are doing and what makes up their daily routines. In Italy that could be starting the day with an espresso and cornetto standing at the bar in a local café. In Australia it might include an iced coffee and sausage roll by the beach and in Vietnam it could be slurping a steaming bowl of pho sitting on a plastic stool on a busy street corner. Hey, variety is the spice of life!

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private vehicle, ferry, sailboat, plane, walking

Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

Local flights are included in this itinerary. The max luggage allowance on domestic flights within Australia is 1 checked bag (20 kgs) and 1 carry on (7 kgs) per person.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo 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 solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels (21 nts), underground hotel (1 nt), rainforest cabin (2 nts).

Will I get my own room?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

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?

1. By Taxi: Approximately \$70, and it is 35km to the joining hotel.
2. SKYBUS, \$19 per person: A 24-hour service from the airport to the Southern Cross train station in the city centre. From here, check in at the Skybus Hotel Transfer Service booth and a SkyBus mini-bus will drop you at the hotel (Hotel Transfer Service operates until 7pm).

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time.

Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

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, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you 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 1 checked bag (20 kgs) and 1 carry on (7 kgs) per person.

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible.

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. Heavy luggage is not recommended for the health of the CEO, who will take a lead in loading the storage trailer. Due to space in the trailer, we will not be able to accommodate more than one piece of main luggage per person. A good size day-pack (20-35L) is also essential to carry your personal gear for the day, as access to luggage between destinations will be limited. This daypack will be used to carry your personal gear for the day, your lunch and a water bottle.

What should be on my packing list?

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

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.)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

When can I do my laundry on this trip?

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).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in Australia 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), traveller's cheques and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is easy to find in Australia 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 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?

Mornington Peninsula

- Wine Tour

The Twelve Apostles

- Helicopter Ride (145AUD per person)

Grampians National Park

- Grampians National Park Visit (Free)

Wilpena Pound

- Wilpena Pound Hike (Free)

Ikara-Flinders Ranges

- Mountain Biking
- Flinders Ranges Helicopter Ride (95-270AUD per person)
- Flinders Ranges 4WD Tour (105-295AUD per person)

Uluru

- Uluru & Kata Tjuta Helicopter Ride
- Outback Astronomy Tour (60-70AUD per person)
- Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos
- Sounds of Silence Dinner

Cape Tribulation

- Great Barrier Reef Visit (217AUD per person)
- Cape Tribulation Horseback Riding (110AUD per person)
- Daintree National Park Visit (Free)
- Daintree Rainforest Night Walk (55AUD per person)

Whitsunday Islands

- Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling (Free)

Byron Bay

- Whale Watching (89AUD per person)
- Hinterland and Minyon Falls Tour (139AUD per person)
- Byron Bay Ocean Kayaking

Cape Byron

- Cape Byron Lighthouse Visit (Free)

Port Macquarie

- Koala Hospital Visit (2AUD per person)

Sydney

- Sydney Opera House Visit (50-199AUD per person)
- Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb (385-415 per person)
- Jet Boat Ride (85AUD per person)
- Sydney Adrenaline Bundle

Coogee Beach

- Coogee Beach to Bondi Beach Coastal Walk

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 group leader 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 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 people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

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 evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. 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.

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

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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.