

exceptional food & wine, Sydney beckons with excitement for all. On arrival, transfer by private coach to your hotel. Settle into your hotel, ideally located in the city-center near Sydney's many must see attractions, such as Sydney Harbour, Darling Harbour, Centrepont Tower, The Rocks, and the renowned Opera House. (B)

**Day 7 Sydney/City Tour/Capt. Cook Coffee Cruise** Start your day with a hearty full breakfast at your hotel. Then embark on a rousing half day tour of Sydney with a professional and insightful guide. Visit Sydney's famed Chinatown. Take-in the Royal Botanic Gardens, situated on the edge of Sydney Harbor along Farm Cove, where you can enjoy an outstanding collection of plants from Australia and across the globe. Tour the city's fashionable Eastern Suburbs. Venture along to Sydney Harbour National Park and discover breathtaking views from "the Gap" – ocean cliffs facing the Tasman Sea and Sydney Harbor. Experience the area's iconic Bondi Beach. Then discover one of the world's most captivating architectural sights, the Sydney Opera House, poised grandly on Sydney Harbour. Along the way we will visit an establishment to learn about Australian Opals. After lunch (on your own) you take a Capt. Cook coffee cruise. On this excursion you will sail around the Sydney Harbour, taking-in some of Sydney's most spectacular sights from a different perspective. As you cruise the Main Harbor, you will glide past the Opera House, The Royal Botanic Gardens, exuberant mansions of the exclusive Eastern Suburbs, Garden Island Naval base, and Watsons Bay beach. Sail under Sydney Harbour Bridge then around Goat Island, entering Darling Harbour prior to arriving in Circular Quay. (B)

**Day 8 Sydney** After enjoying breakfast, outdoor recreation calls with the opportunity to enjoy an optional day trip to the Blue Mountains, a UNESCO World Heritage site. From Echo Point, take-in the awe inspiring vistas of the Megalong Valley and view the Three Sisters formations overlooking Jamison Valley that change color as the light shifts throughout the day. This afternoon, Aboriginal culture comes to life at the Waradah Aboriginal Centre. Next it's a visit to Featherdale Wildlife Park where you will have the unique chance to hand-feed kangaroos and wallabies, and have an encounter with koalas. The Australian bush offers superb opportunities for photographing exquisite wildlife. As you return to Sydney, drive along the world-renowned Sydney Harbour Bridge and past the site of the 2000 Olympics. You may also choose to explore Sydney at your leisure today instead. (B)

**Day 9 Sydney – Melbourne** This morning enjoy breakfast before heading to Sydney's airport for a short flight to Melbourne. Melbourne is Australia's second largest city and cultural capital, with Victorian-era architecture, extensive shopping, museums, galleries, theatres, and large parks and gardens. The busy Docklands are filled with shops and restaurants to explore or you can visit Eureka Tower, the tallest residential building in the Southern Hemisphere. Melbourne is an exciting city we will showcase for you! (B)

**Day 10 Melbourne/City Tour** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel this morning and then Central Holidays escorts you on a Melbourne City Tour through the Fitzroy Gardens, the Shrine of Remembrance and the Parliament House. In the afternoon we will have an opportunity to explore the city at your leisure or join us for an optional tour to Phillip Island, a beautiful nature reserve and home to the world-famous Little Penguin Parade. At sunset, the world's smallest penguins emerge from the sea and waddle ashore to their sand dune burrows – a wonderful photo opportunity and memorable experience. We will enjoy dinner on Phillip Island before returning to Melbourne. (B)

**Day 11 Melbourne - Christchurch, New Zealand** This morning we transfer to Melbourne's airport for your departure flight to charming Christchurch, New Zealand. Often referred to as the world's most English city outside of England, Christchurch has fine older buildings and neo-gothic architecture. Nicknamed the "Garden City" there are numerous trees that grow throughout the city, giving it a forest feel. Highlights include the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch Cathedral, Arts Centre and much more. Enjoy dinner tonight with your fellow travelers. (B,D)

**Day 12 Christchurch/Panoramic City Tour – Queenstown** After enjoying breakfast you will have a panoramic Christchurch city tour highlighting the beautiful gardens and unique architecture. We'll enjoy lunch at the foot of Mount Cook and then travel to Queenstown for the next two nights. Queenstown's stunning scenery, huge range of activities and renowned warm welcome cement its reputation as New Zealand's favorite visitor destination. Surrounded by majestic mountains and set on the shores of crystal clear Lake Wakatipu, the natural beauty and the unique energy of the region create the perfect backdrop for your extension of adventure, exploration or relaxation. Rest well this evening for upcoming adventures! (B,L,D)

**Day 13 Queenstown/City Tour** After breakfast you will have a half day

tour of this magnificent town in the South Island of New Zealand set along the edge of Lake Wakatipu and surrounded by the Southern Alps. Check out Bungy Bridge for death-defying jumps, Arrowtown and the Shotover Jet, a high speed jet boat tour that performs stunts like 360 degree pirouettes in the water. You will also have time to explore the city at your leisure – Queenstown is best known for its spectacular mountain-view scenery. Maybe enjoy a gondola ride to the top of Bob's Peak for awe-inspiring vistas over the country or just take a ride through the curving roads and become one with this beautiful country. (B)

**Day 14 Queenstown** Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel and then join us for an optional full day tour of Milford Sound or stay and explore Queenstown further at your leisure. If you join us for the optional tour we will travel through lush and beautiful countryside, through the famous Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound. Admire the awe inspiring sights of Milford Sound on a scenic cruise! As you marvel at one of the world's most incredible natural miracles, see dolphins, and seals against a backdrop of gushing waterfalls and a lush green rainforest. Lunch is included on this day tour. (B)

**Day 15 Queenstown – Rotorua/Whakarewarewa** Thermal Reserve and Maori Village This morning we head to the airport after breakfast for your flight to Rotorua, situated on New Zealand's North Island and known as the Thermal Wonderland. Upon arrival begin your adventure by heading to the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve and Maori Village set amidst a landscape of erupting geothermal activity, hot thermal springs & bubbling mud pools. Enjoy the natural wonders here and touch the warming waters to feel their healing energy. Later we return to the hotel where you spend your first night in Rotorua on the shores of Lake Rotorua. (B)

**Day 16 Rotorua/Rainbow Springs Nature Park/Maori Hangi** Feast Sightseeing After breakfast this morning depart for Rainbow Springs Nature Park to see live kiwi foraging, feed large rainbow trout. Enjoy a walking journey through the native New Zealand bush where we'll see the local flora and fauna. This evening you experience true New Zealand culture during your Maori Hangi Feast Farewell Dinner featuring a traditional meal & entertainment. Dine on authentic local cuisine and drinks as you enjoy a final dinner with your travel companions on this South Pacific travel adventure. (B,D)

**Day 17 Rotorua – Waitomo Glow Worm Caves – Auckland/Panoramic City tour to USA** Today enjoy the beautiful scenery of the North Island as you travel to Auckland following breakfast at your hotel. On the way we will visit the Waitomo Glow Worm Caves, one of New Zealand's most famous and beautiful attractions. Be sure to have your cameras ready! Later, we arrive in Auckland for a panoramic city tour to see the scenic waterfront area and the Auckland Tower. Afterwards you arrive to the airport for your return flight to the USA. On your homeward flight you cross the international dateline heading east to west, giving you back a day and a lifetime of cherished memories from your amazing vacation Down Under. (B)

(B) – Breakfast, (L) – Lunch, (D) – Dinner



**Hotels**

Rydges Esplanade Resort Cairns  
 Rydges World Square  
 Rydges Melbourne  
 Novotel Christchurch  
 Copthorne Queenstown  
 Novotel Rotorua

**City**

Cairns  
 Sydney  
 Melbourne  
 Christchurch  
 Queenstown  
 Rotorua