DAY 1: ARRIVE MELBOURNE – SATURDAY 02 NOVEMBER 2019

Welcome to Australia! Upon arrival at Melbourne Airport, we will be met and transferred to your accommodation which is being held for our early check-in. The rest of today is at your leisure. Shop do some personal sightseeing or just relax at the hotel – the choice is yours. (Lunch and dinner own arrangements and cost)

Pullman Melbourne Albert Park

DAY 2: MELBOURNE TO ULURU – SUNDAY 03 NOVEMBER 2019

This morning we transfer to Melbourne Airport for our flights to Uluru (Ayers Rock). On arrival we head to the Yulara Village for some time to check out some of the local art before checking in to our accommodation. Late afternoon, we make our way to Sunset Strip - the colour of the Rock changes depending on the time of day and the weather but in the evening, at sunset, Ayers Rock puts on a remarkable light show as it changes colour from red to orange to lilac in a matter of minutes. We enjoy this special experience before returning to the resort for dinner. (Breakfast at the hotel / lunch own arrangements and cost / dinner at the hotel

Voyages Desert Gardens Hotel – 2 nights

DAY 3: ULURU – MONDAY 04 NOVEMBER 2019

We’re up before the birds this morning as our coach will make an early departure to the new Sunrise Viewing Area to experience the first glimpse of the day. After breakfast at the resort, our coach will then transfer us back to the rock for the Mala Walk. This is a lovely stroll to the edge of the Kantju Gorge. Learn about Aboriginal perceptions of Uluru, its powerful spiritual significance and how Anangu traditional owners and ranges are looking after the Park together. There are many fine examples of Anangu art to see along the way. You may like some statistics! Uluru, is located in the World Heritage Listed Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. It rises 348 metres from the desert floor and has a girth of 9.4km. It’s the world’s most famous monolith with at least two thirds of the Rock lying beneath the surface. We now take a drive around the Rock, stopping for photo opportunities along the way. Our next walk is along a short track to the Mutitjulu Waterhole, home of Wanampi, an ancestral watersnake. Here we can learn how Kuniya and Liru (the woma python woman and poisonous snake man) helped create Uluru. This is a living cultural landscape. Kuniya is still here. Her spirit is here. The art caves are still used by Anangu
today. We also spend some time in the Cultural Centre before returning to the village. This evening enjoy the ‘Sounds of Silence’ - the quietest restaurant on earth. Sip sparkling wine and listen to the haunting sounds of the didgeridoo while watching a magnificent sunset over Kata Tjuta. After sunset enjoy a delicious Northern Territory gourmet barbecue. Lights go down revealing a star filled sky with a resident astronomer providing introduction to the magnificent constellations, stars and planets that make up the skies of the Southern Hemisphere. *(Breakfast at the hotel / lunch own arrangements and cost / Sounds of Silence dinner)*

**DAY 4: ULURU / CAIRNS – TUESDAY 05 NOVEMBER 2019 (B)**

This morning we drive out to the mystical 36 domes of Kata Tjuta – The Olgas. Stop at a lookout for panoramic views of the eastern side of Kata Tjuta then spend some time exploring the Walp a Gorge or Mt Olga Gorge (depending upon fitness) and the unusual conglomerate rock formations. This afternoon we depart Ayers Rock for our flight to Cairns, the capital of the Tropical North. On arrival at Cairns, transfer to our accommodation. *(Breakfast at the hotel / lunch and dinner own arrangements and cost)*

*Pullman Cairns International – 4 Nights*

**DAY 5: KURANDA SCENIC RAIL – WEDNESDAY 06 NOVEMBER 2019 (B)**

This morning we board the Kuranda Scenic Rail for a spectacular journey with stunning views. Pass massive Baron Falls, Stoney Creek and cross steep ravines to the unique rainforest village of Kuranda. We’ll have time to explore this pretty village before boarding the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway which will take us skimming over the pristine rainforest canopy. Early afternoon, we visit Tjapukai – the Aboriginal cultural park set on 25 acres at Caravonica Lakes. This will be a special experience. There are five theatres, a museum, an art gallery and a traditional aboriginal camp where we can learn to throw a boomerang! We will have time to see all presentations. The History Theatre tells the story of what happened when the modern world descended upon a 40,000-year-old culture, the Spiritual beliefs of the Tjapukai people are portrayed in the Creation Theatre, a celebration of dance and song in the Dance Theatre and didgeridoo, bush foods and medicine demonstrations can be found in the Cultural Village. We can purchase lunch here and after an interesting day we are transferred back to our hotel late afternoon. *(Breakfast at the hotel / lunch and dinner own arrangements and cost)*
DAY 6: GREAT BARRIER REEF – THURSDAY 07 NOVEMBER 2019

Today sail by catamaran to Michaelmas Cay, a unique sand cay. Michaelmas Cay is a picturesque reef sand island surrounded by magical coral gardens teeming with an incredible diversity of marine life. The Cay is a protected seabird sanctuary playing host to over 20,000 migratory seabirds. The surrounding outer reef is a spectacular garden of exotic marine life, magnificent coral and giant clams, boasting more varieties of tropical fish than the entire Atlantic Ocean. Ride a semi-submersible vessel for coral viewing, enjoy guided snorkel tours from the beach accompanied by informative ecological presentations by a marine biologist and a smorgasbord luncheon. Back on dry land, we can meander back to our hotel. This evening, dinner is at our own arrangements and expense – there are plenty of restaurants and cafes along the waterfront to choose from.

(Breakfast at the hotel / lunch on board / dinner own arrangements and cost)

DAY 7: DAINTREE & PORT DOUGLAS – FRIDAY 08 NOVEMBER 2019

This morning we head north to the Daintree Rainforest, a region mostly untouched and in pristine condition. At the township of Daintree, we join Daintree River Cruises for a cruise along the river with an experienced guide. Our tour also includes a morning tea. Disembarking our cruise, we retrace our steps to the tiny village of Mossman. Mossman Gorge forms the southern sector of the World Heritage listed Daintree Rainforest, the last remnant of the oldest surviving rainforest in the world. The area has one of the most ancient ecosystems on earth where more than 18,000 known plant species exists, some trees being more than 2,500 years old. We stop to visit the Mossman Gorge Centre for lunch and a look at the gorge. From here we proceed into Port Douglas to have a look. This former fishing village became a tourist mecca when Christopher Skase invested in the area and built the Sheraton Mirage. Its proximity to the World Heritage Listed Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics forests of the Daintree has transformed this small village into one of Australia’s most popular destinations. After some time to wander down the main street we return to Cairns.

(breakfast at the hotel / lunch at Mossman Gorge / dinner own arrangements and cost).
This morning we transfer to Cairns Airport for our flight to Sydney. Radiating from the sparkling waters of Sydney Harbour, Australia’s largest city stretches from the shores of the Pacific Ocean to the foot of the Blue Mountains. Sydney boasts stunning beaches, world class shopping and a host of superb restaurants and nightclubs. On arrival we’ll be met and embark on a city sights tour taking in the historical Rocks area, where the First Fleet landed in 1788 to establish Australia’s first European settlement. Other highlights include China Town, cosmopolitan Kings Cross and world-famous Bondi Beach. Returning to town, we make our way to the Sydney Opera House; where we meet our guide for a tour with a difference. Sixty years ago, Jorn Utzon designed what is now considered one of the greatest buildings of all time. It is also the youngest building ever to be world heritage listed. This will be a fascinating tour. We have time after to wander through Circular Quay and purchase lunch. The final stop on our tour is Mrs. Macquarie’s Chair on the harbour foreshore. The chair was carved out of the sandstone by convicts for Governor Lachlan Macquarie’s wife for her to watch the activity on the harbour and await the arrival of ships from England. The point provides us with wonderful views of the Sydney Opera House, the Harbour Bridge and Fort Denison – don’t forget to bring your camera as this is a great photo opportunity.

(Breakfast at the hotel / lunch and dinner own arrangements and cost) Parkroyal Darling Harbour Sydney – 2 Nights

DAY 9: SYDNEY SPRINTS TRI-ATHALON – SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2019

(B) It’s race day today and a very early start as we transfer to Sydney’s Botany Bay to participate in Race 1 of the “Sydney Sprints” Triathlon, Australia’s longest running Sprints series. Check-in commences from 5.50am for a 7.00am start.

TIMELINE
5.50am - 6.30am – Registration open for race pack pickup
5.50am - 6.30am – Transition Area open for you to rack your bike and set up for the event
6.40am – Race briefing in front of stage
7.00am – Race start
10.00am- Presentations

Sprint: 750m Swim/20k Bike/5km Run.
At the end of the event, we’ll be met and transferred back to our hotel.

Note: The Sydney Sprints programme and timings for 2019 are yet to be finalised. Itinerary is subject to change. (Breakfast box / lunch and dinner own arrangements and cost)
Non participants
We're covered too with a magnificent day in the BLUE MOUNTAINS!

Today discover the beauty of the Blue Mountains - a stark contrast to the hustle and bustle of Sydney. We visit Featherdale Wildlife Park, which houses a great variety of wildlife including kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, Australian reptiles, Tasmanian devils, wombats and various species of Australian birds. Our coach climbs into the Blue Mountains National Park where our lunch stop (own arrangements and cost) is in the village of Leura. Leura is aboriginal for “lava”; the name was given to the village because of the area’s wealth of volcanic stones. It is the rich volcanic soil that is responsible for Leura’s international reputation of possessing some of the nation’s most beautiful gardens. This afternoon we take the scenic Cliff Drive to Echo Point and the Three Sisters at Katoomba – a great stop for a photo opportunity! Near here is Scenic World where we ride on the Scenic Railway, the world’s steepest incline railway. We descend 415m down the escarpment at a gradient of 52 degrees and travel through the tunnel and ancient rainforest. When we disembark, we walk the 300m rainforest boardwalk to connect with the Flyway platform. The Scenic Cableway is the steepest aerial cable car in Australia. It will take us on a 545 metre ride up through the World Heritage Listed rainforest of the Jamison Valley. Our final adventure at Scenic World is to join the Scenic Skyway to take the journey 270m above ancient ravines and dazzling waterfalls. This ride boasts a world first, state of the art Electro-Scenic Glass Floor. At the flip of a switch breath taking views are revealed through the cabin floor directly below. The 360-degree bird’s eye view takes in the Three Sisters, Katoomba Falls, Mount Solitary and the never ending expanse of the Jamison Valley. *(Breakfast at the hotel / lunch and dinner own arrangements and cost)*

**DAY 10: DEPART SYDNEY - MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2019**

Transfer to Sydney Airport for your onward flight. *(Breakfast at the hotel)*

**Entry Requirements – Passports & Visas**

Visitors to Australia should visit the Australian Immigration Service website for information about entry regulations, visa exemptions, obtaining a visa and visa waivers.

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<td><strong>Per Person Sharing</strong></td>
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*Cost based on minimum of 20 people booking*

Please remember these prices are for Ground Touring Content as per itinerary only, therefore all International and Domestic air fares, airline surcharges and departure taxes should be considered.