#### BEST OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW-ZEALAND- 15 Day LUXURY ADVENTURE



Ayers Rock♥ Sydney♥ Melbourne♥ Great Ocean Road♥ Great Barrier Reef

♥Milford Sound ♥Queenstown ♥Rotorua ♥Waitamo ♥Auckland

### **TOUR SUMMARY**



Australia might be the world's smallest continent, but it is also the world's largest island, and at almost the size of the continental United States, it is almost as enormous as it is far!

With a whole class of species that cannot be found anywhere else, terrain as diverse as the Red Centre and the green and blue tropical coast, it's a land like no other!

Separated by the raging "Tasman Sea", neighboring New Zealand is a land of exquisite beauty, complete with glaciers, fjords, volcanic lakes, snow-covered mountain ranges, and thermal springs and pools of virtually every color.

In this "first-of-a-kind" luxury kosher trip, we enjoy 15 days of incredible scenery, gourmet kosher food, luxury hotels, fascinating culture, and loads of fund and adventure, not to mention incredible company and vibe!



## Wednesday Melbourne- Great Ocean Road



Today, we arrive in Melbourne, and after some great views of this famous city, we embark on the "Great Ocean Road", 243 kilometres of road along the south-eastern coast of Australia between the Victorian cities of Torquay and Allansford, an Australian National Heritage, that is known as one of the most beautiful coastal routes on the planet.

We'll see spectacular coastal scenery, look for wild koalas and Australian parrots at Kennett River; and explore the rain forest at Great Otway National Park with its grey kangaroos and swamp wallabies among other animals.



We also enjoy the most magnificent formations of the "Great Ocean Road", including the "postcard perfect" limestone Twelve Apostles, Gibson's steps, Lochard Gorge, grotto, and London Arch.

After a long day of spectacular scenery, we drive back to Melbourne, where we spend the night at one of the cities nicest hotels.

## Thu: Melbourne to Sydney



This morning, we enjoy a lovely breakfast at our hotel, and some free time for shopping on Melbourne's famous "Collins Ave". In the afternoon, we fly to Sydney ,where we check into our elegant hotel on Circular Quay, round the corner from the famous Sydney Opera House

## Friday - Saturday : Sydney



On Friday, we explore the sights and sounds of Sydney, Australia's most famous metropolis. From the iconic operahouse and harbor, to its spectacular beaches and Tower, this city is truly one of the world's greatest.

We then enjoy an unforgettable Shabbos in down-town Sydney, visiting the historic Great Synagogue, and enjoying a walking tour of the famous "Rocks" area and Botanical Gardens, along the waterfront.

## Sun - Sydney to Reef



This morning, we explore the famous beach-front neighborhoods of Bondi Beach, also home to much of Sydney's Jewish Community. A gorgeous trail along the Ocean-cliffs rewards us with some incredible views, after which we have lunch at one of Bondi's kosher coffee shops.

In the afternoon, we embark on the next leg of our adventure, and fly North to Cairns, the main city of Tropical North-Queensland, and gateway to the "Great Barrier Reef. From the airport, we enjoy a scenic drive up the tropical coast to the town of Port Douglas, where we check into the gorgeous Sheraton Mirage, our home for the next 3 nights.

# **Monday: Great Barrier Reef**



Today, we enjoy one of the 7 wonders of the natural world, the largest coral reef on the planet, which stretches 1000 miles from one side to the other!

We depart Port Douglas by boat, cruising through crystal-clear waters, to the fixed pontoons in the heart of the reef, from where we have a chance to snorkel, or for those with the ability, to go diving.

For those who prefer to remain dry, the pontoons have under-water observatories from which the incredible life of the reef can be observed. A relaxed cruise takes us back to our hotel, for a well-deserved dinner.

### Tue: Reef and Rainforest



Today, a short coastal drive takes us to the historic "Kuranda Railway", which winds through breath-taking scenery to the rain-forest village of Kuranda, where we enjoy some free time to explore its quaint shops, and of course, the butterfly sanctuary.

We return to the coast via the 8km scenic gondola skyway, enjoying spectacular views of the rainforest, river, waterfalls, and ocean. the rest of the afternoon is free to enjoy the beaches of tropical North-Queensland, and explore its sites on your own.

### Wed: Reef - Ayers Rock



Today, we fly South -West to the great "Red Centre", and Uluru, also known as Ayers Rock, believed by the Aboriginal People to have been formed during Dreamtime by ancestral beings. Our first stop is the desert town of "Alice Springs", the headquarters of the Australian Center, where we enjoy a tour of one of the world's most remote outposts of civilizations. Our tour could include the historic telegraph station, and the reptile centre.

In the afternoon, we board our plane again for a short flight to Yulara, headquarters of the famous Ayers Rock. This monolithic sandstone landmark in the expansive Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, is believed to be one of the largest single rocks in the world, and will set the scene for gaining insight into the Aboriginal culture.

As we explore the Mala walk and Mutitjulu waterhole, we learn about the regional flora and fauna, and the local aboriginal culture, before an incredible sunset accompanies us to our overnight accommodation, where we hope to see some of the best star-filled skies on the planet.

# Thu: Kata Tjuta to Sydney



An early start takes us to experience sunrise among the 36 domes of Kata Tjuta. Geologically, these domes are believed once to have been a monolith like Ayers Rock, that collapsed over the years.

We then fly back to Sydney, check into our hotel, and enjoy some free time for shopping at the famous nearby "Circular Quay." The music-fans amongst us can enjoy an exciting show in the iconic Sydney opera-house. (owncost)

#### Friday and Sat - Queenstown



Queenstown is considered by everyone in the know to be New Zealand's most beautiful town. Surrounded by mountains and on the shores of the pristine Lake Wakatipu, there are views virtually from every corner.

After our morning flight from Sydney, we explore the downtown area of this quaint town, walking its alleyways and enjoying its quaint stores. We also take the gondola up to the viewing point, and the ski-lift up to the Luge track, where we enjoy the thrill of "Luging" hundreds of metres above the city!

We then return to our hotel to prepare for a lovely, albeit late, Shabbos in the deep-South of the planet!

## Sun: Fjordlands National Park- Milford Sound



This breathtaking, glacier-sculpted fiord, with its vertical cliffs, mountain peaks and waterfalls, was described by Rudyard Kipling as the 'eighth wonder of the world', and as New Zealand's most popular natural spectacle, is truly worth the long drive.

The drive to Milford sound takes in some of the best scenery of the South-Island. After a coffee stop in the picturesque town of Te Anau, we drive past waterfalls, lakes, and forests, and through the spectacular Homer Tunnel, before making the dramatic descent into the fjord.

We then enjoy the highlight of the day, a boat cruise on the sound. For those who prefer to fly back to Queenstown, and unforgettable scenic flight can be added at own cost.

#### Mon: Mount Cook



Today, we drive through magnificent Southern Island Scenery, to Mount Cook National Park, site of New Zealand's iconic highest peak, at the top of the Southern Alps. We hope for clear weather and great views of the mountain, and lovely nature trail in the foothills of the Alps.

We then cross the Southern Alps to the Canterbury plains, stopping at the pristine Lake Tekapo and the sheep-farming village of Tweezel, en route to Christ-Church, the largest city on the South Island, famous for its rebuilding efforts after the recent devastating earthquakes. We enjoy a walking tour of this quaint and colorful city, after which we drive to the airport for our evening flight to the thermal-lands of Rotorua.

#### Tue: Rotorua



Rotorua is all about geysers and volcanic activity, and today we explore some of the incredible thermal sites of this region. We enjoy a cruise of lake Rotorua, admiring the smoking geysers along the shore, and visit a Maori village, where we learn about the local culture.

30 min drive from Rotorua ,the Wai-Tapu Thermal wonderland is the showcase of the region, and we spend a couple of hours exploring its incredible thermal pools and vistas from the boardwalks and trails of the reserve. With multi-colored pools like the "Artist's Palette" and "Champagne Pools", this walk provides some of the most unique and incredible views on the planet.

# Wed: Waitomo Glow-Worm Caves to Auckland



Today, we drive through "Lord of Rings" country, to the incredible Waitomo Caves complex, where we visit some of the world's most beautiful show-caves. The highlight of the day is a short underground boat-cruise lit up by thousands of glowworms that resemble the star-filled vacuum of outer-space!

We then drive back to Auckland, and enjoy a short tour of New Zealand's, famous capital, before catching our international flight back home.

