

## Australia Encompassed - OAAE

25 days: Sydney to Melbourne

### What's Included

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- Your G for Good Moment: Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration, Whitsunday Islands
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends
- Your Hands-On Moment: Wine Tutorial, Hunter valley
- Your Discover Moment: Byron Bay
- Your Discover Moment: Cairns
- Your Big Night Out Moment: Cairns
- Your Foodie Moment: Local Food Experience, Clare Valley
- Your Discover Moment: Adelaide
- Sydney orientation walk
- Fraser Island 4x4 excursion
- Entrance fees to Cooloolo Recreation Area and Fraser Island in Great Sandy National Park
- Noosa Everglades overnight experience
- Noosa Everglades canoeing excursion
- Whitsunday Islands sailing excursion (3 days)
- Whitehaven Beach visit
- Rainforest walk in Great Otway National Park
- Champagne sunset viewing of Uluru
- Mala Walk at Uluru and visit to the culture centre
- Underground mine tour (Coober Pedy)
- Walks at Kings Canyon and Grampians National Park
- Internal flight
- 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 November 4th, 2018 and onwards

### Itinerary

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**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.

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#### Day 1 Sydney

Arrive at any time.

There's nothing quite like a night out to get people comfortable with one another. Hit up Side Bar, connected to where you will be staying at the Wake Up Hostel in Sydney. This is the liveliest bar around, sporting a huge young and local crowd. There's always non-stop action with the entertainment so get ready to have a few drinks, let your hair down, and dance until you drop!

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

If you arrive early enough, head down to the harbour's edge to 'The Rocks' historic area and the Opera House.

### **Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group**

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.

### **Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends**

Connect with new friends on your first night out in a new destination. Only available on 18-to-Thirtysomethings tours.

### **Optional Activities - Day 1**

#### **The Rocks Neighbourhood Visit**

The Rocks 1h-2h

Free

Set out and explore this historic colonial neighbourhood in the city centre. Bordered by the Sydney Harbour on one side, it is home to vibrant cafés and pubs, cobbled alleyways, and charming shops. Snap some shots of the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge, and get a feel for cosmopolitan Sydney.

#### **Sydney Opera House Visit**

Sydney

43-185AUD per person

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 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 2 Sydney**

Enjoy a free day to explore Sydney. Opt to climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge, hop on a jet boat ride through the harbour, or chill out at Bondi Beach.

#### **Free Time**

Sydney Full Day

There's lots to do and see in Sydney – make the most of a free day to explore.

### **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.

### **Optional Activities - Day 2**

#### **Sydney Opera House Visit**

Sydney

43-185AUD per person

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 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.

#### **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.

#### **Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb**

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!

### **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 3 Sydney/Tamworth**

Travel to the Hunter Valley for a wine tutorial before continuing on to Tamworth for a taste of Australian country living.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Sydney – Hunter valley 2h-3h 170km

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

#### **Your Hands-On Moment: Wine Tutorial**

Drive to the famous wine region of Hunter Valley for an included wine tutorial. With the guidance of a cellar master, learn how to taste wines for their sweetness, acidity and tannins. Train your nose to appreciate the delicate bouquet (or aroma) of the samples provided.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Hunter valley – Tamworth 3h-4h 240km

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

#### **Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

### **Day 4 Tamworth/Yamba**

Travel over the Great Dividing Range to Yamba, a quaint beach town. Go for a swim at the beach, relax, and enjoy the view.

Continue north, visiting Raspberry Lookout and Boundary Falls in Gibraltar National Park en route. Once in Yamba, head to the beach for a swim.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Tamworth – Yamba 4h30m-5h30m 360km

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

#### **Optional Activities - Day 4**

##### **Swimming**

Grab your bathing suit and go for a refreshing swim.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 5 Yamba/Byron Bay**

Continue up the coast to Byron Bay, an alternative hippie paradise. Hit the beach and enjoy an included surf lesson.

After breakfast, travel the coastal road to the stunning surf and arts town of Byron Bay. Enjoy plenty of free time to experience the hippie surfing town. Options are abound — walk to the lighthouse (located on Australia's most easterly point) for a chance to see whales swimming off shore or hang ten with the locals after an included surfing lesson.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Yamba – Byron Bay 2h 128km

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

#### **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.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 6 Byron Bay**

Enjoy free time to hit the beach, get a massage, or try sea kayaking.

The free time is yours to explore. Walk along the long stunning beach, play in the surf, or simply hang out at the Byron Bay Brewery and people watch. Want to get your adrenaline pumping? Go skydiving, try sea kayaking, or go on a dolphin watch.

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

### **Your Discover Moment**

Byron Bay Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Byron Bay, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like sea kayaking, yoga, and skydiving. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

### **Optional Activities - Day 6**

#### **Skydiving**

Byron Bay 2h-5h

409AUD per person

Enjoy the awe-inspiring beauty of Byron Bay from an eagle's perspective this morning. Suit up, get briefed, and board the prop plane to soar high about 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!

#### **Whale Watching**

Byron Bay 2h30m-3h

89AUD per person

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.

#### **Yoga Class**

Byron Bay

18AUD per person

Zen out during a yoga class with a qualified instructor and learn various stretches, postures, and breathing exercises.

### **Hinterland and Minyon Falls Tour**

Byron Bay

139AUD per person

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 30m-2h

Free

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 7 Byron Bay/Brisbane**

Venture north with your group to the capital of Queensland; Brisbane. Pass by national parks, mountains, surfy enclaves, and endless stretches of sand bordering brilliant blue water. Feeling hungry? Grab a delicious pastry creation from the famous Yatala Pie shop, serving hungry patrons for 130 years. Word of advice... make sure those cameras are charged and ready. Experience a night out with the group in Queensland's capital.

### **Private Vehicle**

Byron Bay - Brisbane 4h288km

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

### **Optional Activities - Day 7**

#### **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.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Day 8 Brisbane/Noosa Everglades**

Escape the city as you journey north up the coast to the Noosa Everglades. Get ready for an evening surrounded by stunning wilderness in one of the most pristine wetlands in the world. Relax as you cruise along this "river of mirrors" and chow down with a delicious Aussie BBQ lunch before further exploring your surroundings. Grab a kayak to get up and personal with the dark, tranquil waters as you paddle through ancient landscapes and sub-tropical rainforest. Then relax around the lake or hike one of the trails to further appreciate the serenity that seeps from this unique landscape.

Please note that due to operational reasons, this night and the following night may be reversed. All activities and inclusions will remain the same.

**Private Vehicle**

Brisbane – Noosa 2h-3h 150km

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

**Eco Cruise**

Noosa Everglades

Relax on a cruise along the pristine Noosa River and into the dark, tranquil, mirrored waterways of the Noosa Everglades. Enjoy a delicious Aussie BBQ lunch at historic Harry's Hut – a relic of the early timber cutting days. Explore, take a swim in the pristine waters, photograph the abundant wildlife, or simply relax in this unique natural environment.

**Canoeing**

Noosa Everglades

Get up close and personal with the Noosa Everglades. Enjoy approx 1.5 hours paddling through the mirrored waterways of the everglades, taking in the ancient landscapes, sub-tropical rainforest, and serenity of the area. Journey back to the base and enjoy an included lunch.

**Noosa Everglades Overnight Excursion**

Noosa Everglades

Stay at the edge of the stunning Noosa Everglades, one of only two everglade systems in the world. Take it easy and relax around the lake, or hike one of the nearby trails.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**

**Day 9 Noosa Everglades to K'gari (Fraser Island)**

On your mark...get set.... go! Travel by private vehicle and ferry with your group to reach K'gari (Fraser Island); for a true Aussie experience. K'gari (Fraser Island) is the largest sand island in the world and the only known place where rainforest grows on sand. Think pure paradise; with striking blue lakes, crystal clear creeks, giant dunes, and dense rainforests in a place truly unlike any other. Once on the island the group will go for a 4x4 tour, driving along over 100km of beach to get a sense of your surroundings. Then take a swim in Lake McKenzie, or be on the lookout for wild Dingoes (this is one of the few places in Australia where you are able to see them).

Once on the island, enjoy a 4x4 tour of K'gari (Fraser Island), driving along over 100km of beach. Go for a swim in Lake McKenzie, and enjoy a rainforest walk along the way.

While on K'gari (Fraser Island), main luggage will be stored in a secure storage facility. Each person will need to pack an overnight bag with max weight of 5kg, as access to main luggage will not be available again until the next day. This is due to luggage capacity restrictions in 4x4 vehicles.

**Private Vehicle**

Noosa – Rainbow Beach 1h15m 95km

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

**Ferry**

Rainbow Beach – Fraser Island

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

**4x4 Excursion**

Fraser Island

Embark on a private excursion taking in the highlights of this amazing island including Lake McKenzie and Pile Valley.

**Optional Activities - Day 9**

## **K'gari (Fraser Island) Flight**

Fraser Island

75AUD per person

The world's largest sand island is home to some of the most stunning landscapes. Keep your eyes peeled for Lake McKenzie, Eli Creek, and maybe even a breaching whale (in season) as you soar above the island. On top of it all, take off and landing is directly on 75 Mile Beach – epic!

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 10 K'gari (Fraser Island) to Airlie Beach**

Your second day on K'gari (Fraser Island) comes with more free time to enjoy this paradise. In the morning continue exploring by 4x4 along wide stretches of pearly white beach and then duck into the shade of the forest to really appreciate the peaceful solitude that surrounds you. In the afternoon board an overnight train (get ready to post some 'grams) north to Airlie Beach, where more sand, sun, and fun await you.

### **4x4 Excursion**

Fraser Island

Embark on a private excursion taking in the highlights of this amazing island including Lake McKenzie and Pile Valley.

### **Free Time**

Fraser Island

Enjoy the natural beauty of K'gari (Fraser Island).

### **Ferry**

Fraser Island – Rainbow Beach

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

### **Private Vehicle**

Rainbow Beach – Cooroy 1h30m 115km

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

### **Overnight Train (seats)**

Cooroy – Airlie Beach 12h-14h

Curl up and catch a snooze en route to the next stop.

### **Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**

## **Day 11 Airlie Beach/Whitsunday Islands**

Awake as the train pulls to a stop in your next destination. Hop out, stretch those legs, and head out for brunch with the group in Airlie Beach; home to the Whitsunday Islands and located on the Great Barrier Reef. Then head to the marina and embark on a maxi yacht which will be your home for the next two nights. Set sail to a secluded cove (we're so excited for you) in the Whitsunday islands where you will drop anchor for the night. Our only advice; try not to pinch yourself too many times because no, this is not a dream, it is reality and we want you to experience it as best you can!

After arriving in Airlie Beach and some time for brunch, head to the marina and embark on a maxi yacht which will be our home for the next two nights. Set sail to a secluded cove in the Whitsunday Islands where you will drop anchor for the night.

### **Maxi Yacht**

Airlie Beach – Whitsunday Islands

Climb aboard a speedy racing yacht (and hang on to your hat).

### **Whitsunday Islands Sailing Trip**

Whitsunday Islands Afternoon

Board a maxi-yacht formerly used to circumnavigate the globe, and get used to being on the water. Lend a hand hoisting the sails or just sit back and enjoy the breeze.

### **Meals included: Dinner**

## **Day 12 Whitsunday Islands**

Remember those stranded-on-a-deserted island fantasies that we all had growing up? (no, just us?) Either way get ready to relive that castaway dream as you hike to an island lookout over Whitehaven Beach (one of the most famous beaches in the world) and enjoy the views of powdery sand and the Coral Sea's azure waters. You probably won't ever want to leave. And you haven't even gone below the surface yet!

After some free time on the beach basking in the sun you'll spend time as a group learning about the community efforts to protect and restore coral in the Great Barrier Reef before heading out to snorkel; over a Planeterra-supported coral garden. Then it's off to another secluded tropical island spot where the group will anchor for the night.

The sailing route today allows us to follow part of Captain Cook's route up through the Whitsunday Islands.

Planeterra has partnered with Reef Ecologic, a nonprofit specialized in creating innovative solutions to challenges facing coral reefs. In the Whitsundays they are working to engage the community and travellers to restore the reef following the 2017 cyclone. Reef Ecologic's new coral gardens in the Whitsundays foster natural coral fragments to be replanted into the reef for a healthy marine environment.

Please note that snorkelling over the Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration project may occur on the first or last day of your Whitsunday Islands excursion, if weather conditions or tides are not ideal on this day.

### **Maxi Yacht**

Whitsunday Islands

Climb aboard a speedy racing yacht (and hang on to your hat).

### **Whitsunday Islands Sailing Trip**

Whitsunday Islands

Set off towards Whitehaven Beach, and hike to a lookout over the beautiful white-sand beach and shallow turquoise waters off its coast. Take advantage of the included snorkel gear, throw on a mask and see what lives in the Great Barrier Reef. Along the way experience parts of the Whitsunday Ngaro Sea Trail.

### **Your G for Good Moment: Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration**

Learn about community efforts to protect and restore coral in the Great Barrier Reef before heading out to snorkel over a Planeterra-supported coral garden.

Planeterra has partnered with Reef Ecologic, a nonprofit specialized in creating innovative solutions to challenges facing coral reefs. In the Whitsundays they are working to engage the community and travellers to restore the reef following the 2017 cyclone. Reef Ecologic's new coral gardens in the Whitsundays foster natural coral fragments to be replanted into the reef for a healthy marine environment.

### **Optional Activities - Day 12**

#### **Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling**

Whitsunday Islands 30m-1h

Free

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.)

### **Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 13 Whitsunday Islands/Airlie Beach**

Expected forecast today is; peace, serenity, paradise, and lots of gorgeous views. You may want to pull out your phone or camera every chance you get, but try to refrain and simply enjoy the moment as you and the group continue sailing through the picturesque backdrop of the Whitsunday Islands. Swim, snorkel, or lounge on the boat deck before sailing to the resort town of Airlie Beach for a night on the town with your best adventure buds! Live it up because let's face it, how often are you really in this kind of paradise?

After three days at sea, we sail back to Airlie Beach for a night on land in a local beach hostel. Feel free to relax by the pool at the end of the day.

### **Maxi Yacht**

Whitsunday Islands

Climb aboard a speedy racing yacht (and hang on to your hat).

### **Whitsunday Islands Sailing Trip**

Whitsunday Islands

It's the final half-day at sea! Enjoy sailing through the gorgeous Whitsunday Islands in the morning, passing by secluded coves and tiny islands. After some free time, sail in style back into Airlie Beach.

### **Optional Activities - Day 13**

#### **Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling**

Whitsunday Islands 30m-1h

Free

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.)

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 14 Airlie Beach/Cairns**

With an early morning departure, admire the scenery on the train ride north to Cairns.

Get ready for an early morning wake-up today for the journey to Cairns. Make sure to stock up on snacks and bring personal entertainment – it may be one of the longer travel days on this trip, but it's worth it to reach The Gateway to the Great Barrier Reef!

### **Local Bus**

Airlie Beach – Proserpine 45m-1h

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

### **Train**

Proserpine – Cairns 10h-11h

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

### **Day 15 Cairns**

Cairns is quite the place to visit if you love warm weather (it would be headline news for the city's temperature to drop much below 20°C (68°F)) and want to visit the Great Barrier Reef. Take advantage of a free day to book one of the many optional activities that will get you out in nature's playground.

Snorkel or dive in the Great Barrier Reef, get that adrenaline pumping by whitewater rafting, skydiving, or bungee jumping and cap it all off on a Big Night Out in Cairns with your fellow travellers. Drinks all around are well deserved after spending the day escaping your comfort zones.

Opt to pre-book the "Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling" activity on the checkout page ahead of time, to include this optional on your tour.

Please be aware that if you decide to book the optional scuba diving activity in the Great Barrier Reef and are taking any prescription medications, you will need a doctor's release giving you permission to dive.

### **Your Big Night Out Moment:**

Release your inner break dancer and go wild tonight in Cairns with your G travel family. Get ready to bust a move and have the time of your life. Whether it's a pub crawl, drink specials or a bonfire on the beach, celebrate late into the night with your new best friends.

### **Your Discover Moment**

Cairns Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Cairns, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like snorkelling the Great Barrier Reef, whitewater rafting, and skydiving. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

### **Optional Activities - Day 15**

#### **Skydiving**

Cairns 2h-6h

310-400AUD per person

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!

#### **Great Barrier Reef Diving from Cairns**

Great Barrier Reef 8h-9h

245-289AUD per person

Experience the largest coral reef in the world from beneath the ocean's surface on a scuba diving day trip. Packages vary and include 1, 2, or 3 dives in a day. The Great Barrier Reef teems with 1500 species of tropical fish, as well as whales, dolphins and porpoises. Bring an underwater camera and go crazy!

Please be aware that if you decide to book the optional scuba diving activity in the Great Barrier Reef and are taking any prescription medications, you will need a doctor's release giving you permission to dive.

### **Skyrail & Kuranda Scenic Railway**

Cairns

116-171AUD per person

Settle into a comfortable 6 seat gondola for a ride with a spectacular view along the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. Pass 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. After, ride the Kuranda Scenic Railway through a lush tropical paradise framed by rugged mountains, waterfalls and ravines back to Cairns. Travel on authentic timber

carriages 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.

### **Bungee Jumping**

Cairns

179AUD per person

Leave your fears at home and prepare to have your breath taken away as you jump from 164ft. Now's the time to release your inner daredevil – what are you waiting for?

### **Whitewater Rafting**

Cairns 12h-12h30m

138-210AUD per person

Put on a helmet, grab a paddle and raft the Class 3 & 4 rapids of the mighty Tully River, considered the best rafting river in all Australia & New Zealand.

### **Minjin Swing**

Cairns

129AUD per person

Soar through the rainforest on the fastest jungle swing in the world. Suit up and be pulled to 150ft above the ground before flying over the canopy at a heart-racing, adrenaline-pumping 120km/hr. We can already hear your screams!

### **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 16 Cairns/Alice Springs**

Hop on a plane to fly to Australia's interior where you'll transfer to your hostel in Alice Springs; the spiritual epicentre of Australia. Spend your free day journeying through the heart of the landscape. Active lovers rejoice as you walk a portion of the Larapinta Trail. History buffs visit the different cultural galleries, museums, sculptures and sacred sites in town offering a unique experience of Aboriginal art and heritage. At the end of the day simply enjoy the delights of this vibrant and diverse town from quirky bars to lively cafes, and restaurants with stunning views everywhere there's plenty to choose from.

New travellers may join you for the rest of your adventure. Consider sitting in on the welcome meeting, and get to know everyone at an optional dinner.

### **Plane**

Cairns – Alice Springs 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 16**

### **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.

### **Alice Springs Desert Park**

Alice Springs

25-40AUD per person

Get a glimpse of authentic Aussie flora and fauna at the Alice Springs Desert Park. This open-air park highlights the creatures of the Outback in re-created natural habitats. If you've been itching to spot some rare and elusive wildlife, like the bilby, now's your chance!

### **Royal Flying Doctors Service Museum Visit**

Alice Springs

16AUD per person

Learn all about the Royal Flying Doctor Service and its role in the lives of Australians. Find a replica of the 1920s bush planes first used by the service, and uncover the stories of pilots, engineers, doctors and nurses who brought much-needed medical care to people who live in remote inland communities.

### **Anzac Hill Hike**

Alice Springs

Free

Take a short hike to the top of Anzac Hill to see panoramic views of Alice Springs and a memorial for Australian veterans.

### **Day 17 Alice Springs/Uluru**

Depart early and travel to the Red Centre. Hike the awe-inspiring Kings Canyon (seasonal) before continuing on to Uluru.

Depart early for the Red Centre. Travel to Kings Canyon and embark on an optional walk, weather permitting, through the gorges and valleys of Watarrka National Park.

Continue on to the Yulara campground for the night.

From late October - early March, if the temperature is forecasted to be 35°C or above we will be following the summer itinerary and visiting the West MacDonnell Ranges instead of Kings Canyon.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Alice Springs – Uluru 6h

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

#### **Kings Canyon Hike**

Kings Canyon 3h-4h 5-6km

Hike through beautiful Kings Canyon in Watarrka National Park on this walk that visits the natural amphitheatre, the north and south walls, and the Garden of Eden.

### **Day 18 Uluru**

Visit an Indigenous culture centre and enjoy the informative Mala Walk at Uluru. Catch the sunset over Uluru with a glass of bubbly in hand. Camp under the stars of the night sky—the only way to really experience the Outback.

Visit the Indigenous Cultural Centre to get a better understanding of the area before embarking on the Mala Walk around part of the base of Uluru (Ayers Rock). Learn the significance behind this iconic destination for the local people.

Experience the colourful sunset at Uluru while enjoying a glass of bubbly. Marvel at the night sky while bunking down in a swag (canvas bedroll) for the night.

#### **Uluru Mala Walk & Sunset**

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. Afterward, gather together to witness the sun setting behind this sacred site.

#### **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.

#### **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!

#### **Optional Activities - Day 18**

##### **Uluru Helicopter Flight**

Uluru

180-360AUD per person

See some of the highlights of the red centre from a bird's-eye view. Take to the air and choose between a 15-minute loop around Uluru, or opt to also see Kata Tjuta on a 25-minute flight.

##### **Outback Astronomy Tour**

Uluru

60-70AUD per person

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 what's out there!

### **Valley of the Winds Walk**

Kata Tjuta / Mount Olga 1h-4h 2-7km

Free

Walk through the Valley of the Winds to explore the beautiful, red, domed rocks that comprise the site. Visit two separate lookouts for great views over the area.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

### **Day 19 Uluru/Coober Pedy**

Travel to the town of 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 across the Outback 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 then importance of opal to the area.

This is one of a few long travel days on this itinerary. The vast expanses of the Outback make long drives necessary to travel between towns – so strap in and enjoy the desert scenery, get to know a fellow traveller, and chill out on this epic Outback roadtrip!

### **Private Vehicle**

Uluru – Coober Pedy 9h-9h30m 780km

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.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 20 Coober Pedy/Ikara-Flinders Ranges**

Admire the Outback while travelling to the Flinders Ranges for the night.

Prepare for an early morning start for the travel day to Flinders Ranges.

### **Private Vehicle**

Coober Pedy – Ikara-Flinders Ranges 10h-11h 590km

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

**Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

### **Day 21 Ikara-Flinders Ranges/Adelaide**

Explore the Flinders Ranges before travelling to Adelaide. Enjoy a local food experience in the Clare Valley along the way.

Travel through the Clare Valley, stopping to enjoy a local food experience featuring South Australia's best regional produce. Arrive in Adelaide, known as the "city of churches".

### **Your Foodie Moment: Local Food Experience**

South Australia is a region renowned for its local produce, which makes it the perfect place to sample local delicacies such as cheeses, olives, pickles, chutneys, jams and other baked goods. Try a few of these tasty treats and learn more about the food culture in this unique part of the world!

### **Private Vehicle**

Ikara-Flinders Ranges – Adelaide 7h30m-9h 380km

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

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 22 Adelaide**

Get ready to stuff your face in the food and wine capital of Australia; Adelaide. Wander the clean laneways and sample your way from place to place as the sun warms your skin. With an emerging art scene, natural beauty, interesting attractions, and incredible restaurants, Adelaide has tons to see and do. Get out and discover the hub of South Australia!

### **Your Discover Moment**

Adelaide Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Adelaide, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like hitting the beach, going on a haunted tour of the Old Adelaide Gaol, and visiting local wineries. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

## **Optional Activities - Day 22**

### **Dolphin Swim and Cruise**

Adelaide

120-130AUD per person

There are very few places in the world that you can swim with dolphins in the wild, so don't miss the opportunity to get close to these majestic creatures. Watch them interact and play around you while you swim in their natural habitat. Available mid-Sept to late-April.

### **Kangaroo Island Day Trip**

Kangaroo Island

283AUD per person

Remote, wild, and stunning, Kangaroo Island is the perfect mixture of all things Aussie. Hop over to the island for a day exploring the coastline and creatures that call it home. Prepare for a full day (up to 16 hours) that will leave you enchanted and in love with this slice of paradise just off the mainland.

### **The Barossa Valley Food and Wine Experience**

Adelaide

Dreamy days and new locations call for one-of-a-kind experiences. Book the Barossa Valley Food & Wine tour for an intimate experience in the valley. The tour includes a full-day of sampling some of the Barossa's finest wines and gourmet food. You will also have the chance to visit the new Barossa Valley Chocolate Company, the famous Maggie Beer's Farm shop, and two award winning cellar doors.

## **Day 23 Adelaide/Halls Gap**

Skip sleeping in this morning and travel inland to Grampians National Park. Trek through lush forest, view the craggy sandstone Wonderland range in the distance, and examine impressive indigenous rock art. Home to some pretty amazing scenic lookouts this national park will grant you with many photo opportunities so make sure those cameras are charged before heading into the thick of it all. Walk to the stunning Balconies for expansive views of the Victoria Valley below, then stop at one of the largest waterfalls in Victoria; Mackenzie Falls and watch the water cascading down cliff faces as it creates rainbows in the air. Close your eyes, breathe in the fresh air, and find peace in the moment.

Depart early and travel inland to Grampians NP, known for its sandstone mountain range and impressive rock art. Walk to the stunning Balconies and visit MacKenzie Falls.

### **Private Vehicle**

Adelaide – Halls Gap 7h07:00 570km

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

### **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.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 24 Halls Gap/Port Campbell**

Open your eyes to the smells and sounds of the lush forest of Grampians NP and lace up those hiking boots for an early morning walk within the park. Are you feeling historical? Visit an Indigenous Cultural Centre where you can choose to throw a boomerang, sample local delicacies like emu or kangaroo, and walk through gardens planted with native herbs and plants to help you learn about the history of Australia's Indigenous peoples. Then drive along the iconic Great Ocean Road, viewing sites like the collapsed London Arch on the way to Port Campbell.

### **Grampians National Park Visit**

Grampians National Park 1h-5h 3-8km

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

### **Private Vehicle**

Halls Gap – Port Campbell 3h26 0km

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

### **London Arch Visit**

Port Campbell National Park 15m-30m

Stop by the rock formation named the London Arch, formerly the London Bridge, until part of the arch collapsed in 1990. This brief stop on the Great Ocean Road showcases the art of nature -- the erosion of limestone and the beautiful rock formations it creates.

### **Brambuk Cultural Centre**

Grampians 30m

Dive into 'Dreamtime' and experience the stories, food, and art of Australia's Indigenous peoples. Go on a guided walk through gardens planted with native herbs and plants, get up close to some rock art, and opt to pay to throw a boomerang' before heading to Bushfoods cafe to sample some local delicacies like kangaroo pie -- anyone still hungry?

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 25 Port Campbell/Melbourne**

No need to say goodbye to the Great Ocean Road just yet! Continue travelling along the road with the group making visits to Loch Ard Gorge and the 12 Apostles along the way. It's no wonder that the 12 Apostles are the star of the show on the Great Ocean Road. They are the kind of landmark that somehow finds a way to be more stunning in person than in photos.

Gaze in wonder at smooth pearlescent bays surrounded by clear, blue water, flanked by yellow-washed cliff faces, and feel the wind whipping through your hair. Then travel past world-famous surf beaches before walking through the rainforest one last time in Great Otway National Park. After soaking up all the nature you can, continue to the hip city of Melbourne in the evening.

Tour ends on arrival to Melbourne.

Tour ends upon arrival in Melbourne in the afternoon. Consider booking post-tour accommodation in Melbourne to explore the city.

### **Private Vehicle**

Port Campbell - Melbourne 7h-8h 300km

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

### **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!

### **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.

### **Rainforest Walk**

Great Otway National Park 30m 1-2km

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

### **Departure Day**

20:00

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with any onward travel arrangements you require.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **What's Included**

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Your G for Good Moment: Reef Ecologic Coral Restoration, Whitsunday Islands

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

Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends

Your Hands-On Moment: Wine Tutorial, Hunter valley

Your Discover Moment: Byron Bay

Your Discover Moment: Cairns

Your Big Night Out Moment: Cairns

Your Foodie Moment: Local Food Experience, Clare Valley

Your Discover Moment: Adelaide. Sydney orientation walk. Fraser Island 4x4 excursion. Entrance fees to Cooloola Recreation Area and Fraser Island in Great Sandy National Park. Noosa Everglades overnight experience. Noosa Everglades canoeing excursion. Whitsunday Islands sailing excursion (3 days).

Whitehaven Beach visit. Rainforest walk in Great Otway National Park. Champagne sunset viewing of Uluru. Mala Walk at Uluru and visit to the culture centre. Underground mine tour (Coober Pedy). Walks at Kings Canyon and Grampians National Park. Internal flight. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

## Highlights

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Taste wine in two different wine producing areas, sleep under the stars at Uluru, island hop through the Whitsundays, marvel at the 12 Apostles along the Great Ocean Road, catch the magnificent colours of Uluru at sunset

## Dossier Disclaimer

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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

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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.

## Important Notes

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### 1) COMBO TRIP

This tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour after your trip concludes. Additionally, this tour is a combination of several G Adventures tours, and your CEO, fellow passengers or vehicle may change between the individual tour sections.

### 2) LUGGAGE

Note that only 1 piece of luggage and 1 carry on are allowed on the Queensland train. If you exceed this allowance, AUD15 may be charged upon boarding the train.

### 3) WIFI

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.

### 4) PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

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.

### 5) SCUBA DIVING OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Please be aware that if you decide to book the optional scuba diving activity in the Great Barrier Reef and are taking any prescription medications, you will need a doctor's release giving you permission to dive.

## Group Leader Description

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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.

## **Group Size Notes**

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Max 20, avg 16

## **Meals Included**

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16 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners

## **Meals**

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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.

Please note that most included breakfasts will consist of cereal, milk, bread and spreads, juice, tea and instant coffee. Having a simple breakfast together most days allows us the flexibility to get on the road early and get from point A to B all that much faster.

## **Transport**

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Private vehicle, train, maxi yacht, 4x4 vehicle, ferry, plane, walking.

## **About our Transportation**

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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.

## **Local Flights**

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All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

The max luggage allowance on domestic flights within Australia is 1 checked bag (20 kgs) and 1 carry on (7 kgs) per person.

## **Solo Travellers**

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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.

## **Accommodation**

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Hostels (16 nts), swag camping (2 nts), maxi yacht (2 nts), cabins (2 nt), overnight train (1 nt), underground hostel (1 nt). All nights multi-share.

## **About Accommodation**

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Accommodation will be varied throughout your adventure. When camping on this tour, you will be provided with an Aussie 'swag'—a canvas bedroll with built-in padding and perfect for a night under the stars. Towels and soap are not always provided at overnight stops, so it's best to bring your own for bathing. Bathroom and showering facilities are shared and are very rarely en-suite.

Multi-share accommodation, on a single-sex basis (typically 4-6 people per room), is very common in Australia and is the way you will be spending most of your nights. We have specifically chosen unique accommodations to give local flavour to your trip.

**COUPLES:** Please note that due to the types of accommodation used in Australia, couples will likely be split into separate rooms where we use multi-share hostels. Pending availability, couples may be able to pay extra while on tour to have their own room in some destinations.

**PRE/POST ACCOMMODATION:** If booking additional nights before or after your tour, accommodation will be multi-share on a mixed gender basis.

## **Joining Hotel**

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

## **Joining Instructions**

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By Taxi: \$40-\$50, approximately 15km from the joining hotel and should take no more than 30 minutes.

By Shuttle Bus: \$16 per person, look for 'Sydney Airporter' bus desk between exit gates B & C. Alternatively, the 'Airport Connect' service in the same location.

By Train: \$18.70 per person. The train station is under the airport terminal and takes approximately 20-25 minutes to get into the city. Hop off the train at Central Station. The hostel is located across the road from Central Station, on the Pitt Street side of George Street.

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.

## **Arrival Complications**

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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.

## **Emergency Contact**

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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

## **What to Take**

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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.

You will need a smaller bag for the Whitsunday Islands overnight excursion, as we will leave big bags on the mainland due to space constraints.

## Packing List

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### 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, band-aids/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
- 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:

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

### Sleep Sheet and Pillow:

- Sleeping bag liner/sleep sheet
- Travel pillow

### Warm Weather:

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

Note:

1) During the winter months (June - Sept), it can get quite cool at night in the Outback. If you are travelling to the Red Centre during the winter, it is recommended to bring some warm layers.

2) A sleeping bag will be provided for all camping nights. We recommend bringing a sleeping bag liner/ sleep sheet and pillow.

## Visas and Entry Requirements

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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](#)

## Spending Money

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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.

## Money Exchange

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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](http://www.xe.com)

## Emergency Fund

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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!

## Tipping

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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.

## Optional Activities

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The Rocks

- The Rocks Neighbourhood Visit (Free)

#### Sydney

- Sydney Bridge Climb
- Sydney Opera House Visit (43-185AUD per person)
- Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb
- Sydney Adrenaline Bundle

#### Coogee Beach

- Coogee Beach to Bondi Beach Coastal Walk

#### Tamworth

- Swimming

#### Byron Bay

- Skydiving (409AUD per person)
- Whale Watching (89AUD per person)
- Yoga Class (18AUD per person)
- Hinterland and Minyon Falls Tour (139AUD per person)
- Byron Bay Ocean Kayaking
- Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos

#### Cape Byron

- Cape Byron Lighthouse Visit (Free)

#### Fraser Island

- K'gari (Fraser Island) Flight (75AUD per person)

#### Whitsunday Islands

- Whitsunday Islands Snorkelling (Free)

#### Cairns

- Skydiving (310-400AUD per person)
- Skyrail & Kuranda Scenic Railway (116-171AUD per person)
- Bungee Jumping (179AUD per person)
- Whitewater Rafting (138-210AUD per person)
- Minjin Swing (129AUD per person)

#### Great Barrier Reef

- Great Barrier Reef Diving from Cairns (245-289AUD per person)
- Great Barrier Reef Snorkelling from Cairns

#### Alice Springs

- Anzac Hill Hike (Free)
- Alice Springs Desert Park (25-40AUD per person)
- Royal Flying Doctors Service Museum Visit (16AUD per person)

#### Uluru

- Outback Astronomy Tour (60-70AUD per person)
- Uluru Helicopter Flight (180-360AUD per person)

#### Kata Tjuta / Mount Olga

- Valley of the Winds Walk (Free)

#### Adelaide

- Dolphin Swim and Cruise (120-130AUD per person)
- The Barossa Valley Food and Wine Experience

#### Kangaroo Island

- Kangaroo Island Day Trip (283AUD per person)

## **Safety and Security**

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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.

## **Trip Specific Safety**

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Between November and March, there is extreme heat with temperatures averaging between 43-46°C 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. 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, Kata Tjuta and Kings Canyon 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.

## **A Couple of Rules**

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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.

## **Travel Insurance**

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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. G Adventures can provide you with the appropriate coverage. 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.

## **Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures**

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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.

## Feedback

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After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Newsletter

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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/](http://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.

## Minimum Age

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Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

## International Flights

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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.