



# New Year's Eve in Australia & New Zealand

22 days | 25 days with Fiji extension

From the Great Barrier Reef and rugged Australian Outback to the sheep-dotted New Zealand plains and its cliff-lined fjords, the Land Down Under features a lineup of dramatic landscapes. In-between outdoor adventures and celebrating the new year, you'll discover sophisticated cities and an irresistible spirit.



## Your tour package includes

19 nights in handpicked hotels  
19 breakfasts  
1 lunch  
6 dinners with beer or wine, including a special New Year's Eve dinner and Champagne toast  
1 tasting  
13 sightseeing tours  
Expert Tour Director & local guides  
Private deluxe motor coach  
5 on-tour flights

## Included highlights

Sydney Opera House  
New Year's Eve in Sydney  
Great Barrier Reef  
Uluru  
Glowworm Caves  
Milford Sound  
Bob's Peak  
Kiwi Wildlife Park  
Kiwi home-hosted dinner  
Auckland's Sky Tower

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 1 hour daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads and gravel paths, with few hills.

## Group size

15-35 <sup>TICO-2395858 | CPBC-73991 | OPC-702373</sup>  
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## Overnight Flight → 2 nights

### Day 1: Travel day

Cross the International Date Line in flight and “lose” a day.

### Day 2: Travel day

Your flight continues to Australia.

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## Sydney → 3 nights

### Day 3: Arrival in Sydney

*Included meals: breakfast, welcome dinner*

Welcome to Sydney! Transfer to your hotel and then gather with your fellow travelers at a welcome dinner this evening.

### Day 4: Sightseeing tour of Sydney

*Included meals: breakfast*

Join your Tour Director for a guided tour of one of the world's most pleasant cities.

- Pass Darling Harbour and the Royal Botanic Gardens
- See the Rocks neighborhood and stop at Mrs. Macquarie's Chair to take in views of the Sydney Harbour Bridge
- Soak in views of Bondi Beach and the Gap in Watsons Bay
- Step inside the UNESCO-listed Sydney Opera House with a local guide

Enjoy a free evening in Sydney or add an excursion.

+ Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise

### Day 5: Free day in Sydney & New Year's Eve celebration

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Enjoy a free day in Sydney or add an excursion. Tonight, enjoy a celebratory dinner and a Champagne toast to welcome the new year.

+ Taronga Conservation Society & Wildlife Visit

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## Great Barrier Reef Region → 3 nights

### Day 6: Flight to Cairns

*Included meals: breakfast*

Fly to Cairns, a coastal city in the state of Queensland, and then transfer to your hotel in the Great Barrier Reef region.

### Day 7: The Great Barrier Reef

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

Enjoy a full day at the Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest coral reef system.

- Head to Cairns Marina to board a catamaran and enjoy a cup of tea as you sail to the Outer Barrier Reef
- Dock at the Marine World Platform and learn about the reef's unique ecosystem from a marine biologist
- View the coral's colors from the underwater observatory, glass-bottom boat, or semi-submarine—or hop in the water with a snorkel
- Sit down for an included tropical buffet lunch aboard the boat
- Sip on some tea as you make your way back to the mainland

*Please note: Snorkeling equipment is provided.*

### Day 8: Free Day in the Great Barrier Reef Region

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free day in the Great Barrier Reef region or add excursions.

+ Australian Hot Air Balloon Ride

+ Kuranda Village Aboriginal Park & Rainforest

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## Uluru Region → 1 night

### Day 9: Transfer to Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

*Included meals: breakfast*

Fly from Cairns to Uluru and visit Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Take in incredible views of Kata Tjuta, the weathered rock domes also known as the Olgas, and watch the sun set over Uluru, the magnificent monolith that's been worshiped by Aboriginal tribes for 22,000 years.

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## Alice Springs → 1 night

### Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free morning in the Uluru region or add an excursion.

Then, return to Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park to learn about Uluru's significance to the Aboriginal people. Join your Tour Director for a panoramic tour of the area or enjoy free time to explore the park on your own.

Later, transfer to Alice Springs, stopping en route to view Mount Conner.

+ Uluru Scenic Plane Ride

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## Melbourne → 3 nights

### Day 11: Alice Springs & flight to Melbourne

*Included meals: breakfast*

Take a guided sightseeing tour of Alice Springs to learn about many institutions that date back to the country's colonial days.

- Stop at Anzac Hill and take in sweeping views of the town and countryside
- Visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the School of Air

Later, transfer to the airport for your flight to Melbourne.

### Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Melbourne

*Included meals: breakfast*

Set off on a guided tour to admire the city's beautiful 19th-century architecture, historic landmarks, and sprawling parks.

- Explore Carlton Gardens, home of the Royal Exhibition Building and the Melbourne Museum
- Visit St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Shrine of Remembrance
- Pass the Yarra River and the Sports and Arts Precinct, site of the Australian Open
- Enter the National Opal Collection
- Stroll through Queen Victoria Market

Enjoy a free afternoon in Melbourne or add an excursion.

+ Phillip Island Penguin Parade

### Day 13: Free day in Melbourne

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Enjoy a free day in Melbourne or add an excursion.

Then, sit down for an included dinner this evening.

+ Yarra Valley Winery & Steamtrain

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## Fiordland National Park Region → 2 nights

### Day 14: Transfer to the Fiordland National Park Region

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Say goodbye to Australia and fly to Queenstown, New Zealand this morning. Upon arrival, transfer to the town of Te Anau in the Fiordland National Park region and enjoy an included dinner.

### Day 15: Lake Te Anau cruise, Glowworm Caves & Milford Sound cruise

*Included meals: breakfast*

Depart early this morning to see the breathtaking scenery of Fiordland National Park.

- Cruise across Lake Te Anau to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves
- Walk along subterranean boardwalks inside the caves to view glowworms
- Pass through beautiful beech forests and by glittering mirror lakes
- Climb to the Homer Saddle and drive through Homer Tunnel
- Sip on a glass of wine as you cruise around Milford Sound, in view of Mitre Peak

*Please note: Travelers on tour from May through September will visit the Glowworm Caves in the morning. The Milford Sound cruise will take place in the afternoon.*

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## Queenstown → 2 nights

### Day 16: Queenstown via Arrowtown & Bob's Peak

*Included meals: breakfast*

Stop to explore the gold rush settlement of Arrowtown as you make your way to Queenstown.

Tonight, take the Skyline Queenstown Gondola 1,500 feet up to Bob's Peak, which offers panoramic views of the landscape below. At the top, watch the sun set as you admire the Remarkables, Walter Peak, and Lake Wakatipu in the distance.

### Day 17: Sightseeing tour of Queenstown

*Included meals: breakfast*

Join your Tour Director as they introduce you to Queenstown this morning.

Spend free time in Queenstown or add an excursion.

+ Walter Peak: Lake Cruise & Dinner

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## Rotorua → 2 nights

### Day 18: Flight to Rotorua

*Included meals: breakfast*

Fly to Rotorua, in the heart of the North Island's Māori country. Later, enjoy a free evening in Rotorua or add an excursion.

+ Māori Village & Hāngi Feast

### Day 19: Sightseeing tour of the Rotorua Region

*Included meals: breakfast, tasting, dinner*

Spend the day exploring the highlights of the Rotorua region.

- With a local guide leading the way, learn about the region's indigenous birds at the Kiwi Wildlife Park
- Visit the village of Whakarewarewa, which is home to thermal springs and bubbling hot pools
- Join a local Whakarewarewa guide to learn about the lifestyle and traditions of the Māori people, who live in harmony with nature in the village
- Visit Rotorua's Government Gardens, a public park and site of great historical importance to the local Māori people

*Please note: For an additional cost, you can book a tour of the Hobbiton movie set through your Tour Director.*

Tonight, join a local Kiwi family for a home-hosted dinner of regional specialties.

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## Auckland → 2 nights

### Day 20: Sightseeing tour of Auckland

*Included meals: breakfast*

Drive from Rotorua to Auckland this morning. Then, get to know Auckland, "The City of Sails," with your Tour Director in the lead.

- See the city's iconic spots such as Mount Eden, the Sky Tower and the Auckland Domain
- Visit the Auckland War Memorial Museum and learn the story of New Zealand and its people

### Day 21: Free day in Auckland

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Enjoy a free day in Auckland or add an excursion.

Later, celebrate your trip with your group at tonight's farewell dinner.

+ Waiheke Island

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## Flight Home

### Day 22: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay to explore Fiji.

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## + Fiji extension

Fly to Fiji to continue your trip and discover what makes the island the definition of paradise. It definitely has something to do with all those palm trees and totally perfect beaches, which you'll have plenty of time to get familiar with.

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## Fiji → 3 nights

### Day 22: Flight to Fiji

*Included meals: breakfast*

Fly to Nadi, Fiji, and transfer to your seaside hotel.

### Day 23: Free day in Fiji

*Included meals: breakfast*

Enjoy a free day in Fiji or add an excursion.

+ Tivua Island Sailing & Snorkeling

### Day 24: Free day in Fiji

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Spend another free day in Fiji or add an excursion.

Then, sit down for an included dinner featuring local seafood this evening.

+ Fiji Village Visit: Indigenous Culture & Traditions

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## Flight Home

### Day 25: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Spend the afternoon relaxing in a dayroom, then transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.ca/AU8](http://goaheadtours.ca/AU8) | 1-800-754-5066

## Day 4: Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise

\$205CAD/\$215CAD\* (2.5 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

Take a dinner cruise through Sydney Harbour, soaking in views of the city's famous bridge, opera house, and twinkling cityscape at night. The MV Sydney 2000, one of Sydney's most prestigious cruise ships, features multiple decks and live entertainment. Your dinner will be served on the Sky Deck, offering 360-degree views of the city.

## Day 5: Taronga Conservation Society & Wildlife Visit

\$125CAD/\$135CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

Make your way to the Taronga Zoo in Sydney by ferry across Sydney Harbor. Next, meet up with a local guide at the Taronga Institute of Science & Learning. This on-site building is where the team's scientists study the country's wildlife and develop programs to conserve threatened ecosystems. Your guide will show you the outside of the prep kitchen and walk you through the animal holdings to show you how and where the animals under their care live. You'll also hear about the many conservation projects the institute is committed to, including recovering native species and protecting their habitats, as well as rescuing and rehabilitating injured wildlife. Then, see both Koala Walkabout and the Tree Kangaroo areas while learning about the community projects the conservation spearheads. After your tour, enjoy free time to explore the zoo before taking a ride on the Taronga Zoo ferry across Sydney Harbour to soak in spectacular views of the city.

## Day 8: Australian Hot Air Balloon Ride

\$409CAD/\$419CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

Sail through the morning sky high above the Atherton Tablelands on this breathtaking excursion. This area is known for its beautiful mix of lush rainforests, thundering waterfalls, and sprawling savannas. As you rise into the sky, you may spot local wildlife grazing below, including kangaroos and wallabies. Your balloon ride lasts 30 minutes. Please note: This excursion is weather-dependent.

## Day 8: Kuranda Village Aboriginal Park & Rainforest

\$229CAD/\$239CAD\* (9 hours, departs in the morning)

Join an expert guide and set out to explore the Rainforest Nature Parks' Pamagirri Aboriginal Experience. Along the way, you'll learn how to make and play a didgeridoo and how to throw a spear, and watch performances that celebrate the culture of the rainforest's indigenous people. Next, you'll take a scenic ride on the historic Kuranda Train before a leisurely lunch break. Enjoy some free time to explore the Kuranda Village, where you may discover treasures at the markets, visit an Aboriginal art gallery, or hop on a river cruise. Before the end of your trip, take a ride on the Skyrail cable car, soaring high over the canopy of

the forest. The cable car will stop along the way, giving you the chance to walk along a boardwalk on the rainforest floor.

## Day 10: Uluru Scenic Plane Ride

\$159CAD (1.5 hours, departure time varies)

Make your way to the airport to board a small, private aircraft that will fly you over Uluru. Your local guide will provide commentary on the grand, red monolith, which indigenous Aboriginal tribes have worshipped for over 22,000 years. Everyone will have a window seat during the 24-minute flight to soak in the bird's-eye views as you travel over the Outback. Please note: This excursion is weather-dependent. There is no personal weight limit, but if you weigh over 198 pounds you will need to provide your weight to flight staff on tour to ensure the overall aircraft weight limit is not exceeded. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

## Day 12: Phillip Island Penguin Parade

\$225CAD (7.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Every night, the tiny penguins of Phillip Island waddle ashore in an adorable parade. On this excursion, you'll journey to Summerland Beach to see the penguins come home after a long day of fishing. They're returning to feed their babies, and you'll watch as the penguins arrive for dinner on the beach. Please note: This excursion is weather-dependent. Travelers should wear seasonally appropriate clothing as this excursion takes place entirely outdoors. Because of the penguins' sensitive vision, photography of the parade is not permitted. We recommend bringing snacks or purchasing food at the cafe as you'll arrive back at the hotel late this evening. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

## Day 13: Yarra Valley Winery & Steamtrain

\$265CAD (9 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)

Embark on a journey to the Dandenong Ranges rainforest. Next, board the authentic "Puffing Billy" steam-powered train en route to Menzies Creek. Along the way, admire the mountain's eucalyptus forest and fern gullies. After the scenic train ride, you'll travel to a regional vineyard to enjoy an included lunch and wine tasting, followed by a visit to another local winery. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

## Day 17: Walter Peak: Lake Cruise & Dinner

\$169CAD/\$179CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

Board the steam-powered TSS Earnslaw in Queenstown for a cruise across Lake Wakatipu. Your destination is Walter Peak, one of New Zealand's most famous sheep and cattle stations. There, you'll enjoy a barbecue dinner and watch a sheep-shearing demonstration and sheepdog show before heading back to Queenstown. Please note: This excursion is

seasonal and runs January to May and from October to December. A weatherproof jacket and comfortable shoes are recommended.

## Day 18: Māori Village & Hāngi Feast

\$165CAD/\$175CAD\* (4 hours, evening with dinner)

The Māori are an indigenous group of Polynesian descent who developed a cooking style known as hāngi, which uses steam, hot rocks, and cloth to cook food inside a manmade hole in the soil. Tonight, head to a Māori village, located in the forest outside of Rotorua, to learn about their unique artworks and ancient rituals before experiencing a traditional hāngi feast. After your dinner, enjoy watching a kapa haka performance which combines hake (posture dance), waiata-ā-ringa (action songs), and waiata koroua (traditional chants).

## Day 21: Waiheke Island

\$199CAD/\$209CAD\* (6.5 hours, departs in the morning)

Board a ferry and settle in for a scenic cruise across the Auckland Harbour to Waiheke Island. Upon arrival at the wharf, a local guide will provide full commentary regarding the history of the island, the native flora and fauna, and tales of the region. Make your way to a boutique vineyard for a wine tasting before continuing to a bustling olive oil mill. With the beach close by, take some time after the tastings to explore the coast and soak in the spectacular views. Before boarding the ferry back to Auckland, you'll have free time for lunch at a local cafe or restaurant.

## Extension excursion options

### Day 23: Tivua Island Sailing & Snorkeling

\$189CAD/\$199CAD\* (7 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)

Set sail on a scenic cruise to Fiji's Tivua Island, a small tropical paradise surrounded by stunning coral reefs. When you're not enjoying afternoon tea or an included buffet lunch, the day will be yours to spend as you'd like. Soak up some sun on the white-sand beach or lounge in a hammock for the ultimate in relaxation. When you're ready to cool off, paddle around the island in a kayak, board a glass-bottom boat with a marine biologist, or hop in the water snorkeling. Back on shore, there will be plenty of opportunities to get acquainted with local culture as you take part in a traditional Kava ceremony, watch a coconut husking demonstration, or learn about herbal medicine on a nature walk. Please note: The Fijian sun is very hot and bringing a sun hat and sunscreen is recommended. If you'd like to enjoy the water, be sure to pack a towel and swimwear.

### Day 24: Fiji Village Visit: Indigenous Culture & Traditions

\$129CAD/\$139CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.ca/terms](http://goaheadtours.ca/terms)



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Set off to Viseisei Village, one of the oldest settlements in Fiji. On the way, stop at Nadi Market for a guided walk through its fruit and vegetable stalls. Then, proceed to your destination where you'll be greeted with a traditional welcome ritual, including a taste of kava, a ceremonial beverage. After a walking tour of the village, learn how about husking and extracting milk from coconuts. Finish your day with a farewell drink before you return to your hotel. Please note: Out of respect, travelers will need to clothes that cover your knees and shoulders. Easy to remove shoes are recommended as you will need to remove them for parts of the experience.

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