

Craig
travel

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

BOOK BY MAY 29, 2026
SAVE \$300 PP

A JOURNEY TO THE LANDS DOWN UNDER
NOV 6 - 29, 2026 • 24 DAYS • 40 MEALS
JOURNEY LEADER: WENDY MARSHALL

Sydney Harbour: one of the world's largest natural harbours

The wild beauty and vibrant cultures of Australia and New Zealand offer a new perspective every day. Marvel at towering fjords and sparkling waterfalls in Milford Sound, spend a day cruising the vibrant Great Barrier Reef, and encounter iconic wildlife like koalas, kangaroos, and the elusive kiwi bird. Wander through bustling cities framed by glittering harbours and modern skylines, then escape to charming villages and rugged Outback landscapes steeped in Indigenous history. With a pace that balances thrilling discoveries and moments to relax, this trip also delights the palate with a rich variety of local culinary experiences, from bush BBQs to fine dining by the water's edge. Join us on a journey through two nations defined by rich heritage, striking nature, and a bold sense of identity.

Highlights

- Discover New Zealand & Australia through guided city tours in Auckland, Christchurch, Melbourne & Sydney
- Enjoy panoramic views from Auckland's Sky Tower
- Swim in the Great Barrier Reef on a full-day cruise
- Witness the Penguin Parade on Phillip Island and meet koalas and kangaroos at Healesville Sanctuary
- Cruise Milford Sound, New Zealand's striking fjord
- Marvel at glow worms in the Waitomo Caves and geothermal wonders at Te Puia
- Support conservation efforts at the National Kiwi Hatchery
- Explore history and culture at the Māori Gallery, Lakes District Museum, and Sydney Opera House
- Connect with the spirit of the Outback at Uluru through walks, stories, and a camel ride at sunset
- Ride the Puffing Billy steam train in the Dandenong Ranges
- Take in the Blue Mountains by railway, skyway, or cableway
- Experience vibrant Indigenous traditions with Māori and Pamagirri cultural performances
- Taste local flavours through special culinary experiences:
 - Lakeside BBQ at Walter Peak Station
 - Gondola ride to a scenic lunch in Rotorua
 - Wine tastings in the Yarra Valley and Gibbston Valley
 - Bush BBQ lunch in Kuranda
 - Sound of Silence Dinner under the stars at Uluru
 - Sydney Harbour luncheon cruise
 - Traditional Māori hāngī dinner

Journey Leader



Meet your journey leader, **Wendy Marshall**, a retired science teacher from Woodstock, ON, who loves sharing her love of travel. Since 2019, she has been leading Craig Travel tours, most recently to South Africa, Costa Rica & Morocco. When not travelling, Wendy lives on a dairy farm with her husband, Ron, where they produce their own milk and cheese. In her free time, she enjoys

quilting, singing in choirs, and playing the tenor drum in the Ingersoll Pipe Band. Wendy and Ron look forward to welcoming you on this exciting journey!



Inclusive Features

- Return airfare to Australia and New Zealand plus domestic flights in destination
- First class accommodation, as indicated or similar
- All sightseeing and entrance fees as described
- 40 meals as noted in the itinerary (B - 21 breakfasts, L - 7 lunches, D - 12 dinners)
- Services of your Canadian journey leader and expert local drivers and guides
- All gratuities, surcharges, taxes and fees for inclusions
- Airport transfers in Canada (or equivalent value) with booking of air-inclusive package

NOV 6-7, Friday-Saturday

DEPART CANADA

Tour members from across Canada gather in Vancouver and fly to Auckland, losing a day en route.

NOV 8, Sunday

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Arrive in Auckland early this morning and transfer to our hotel for immediate check-in. Join your fellow travellers for dinner this evening. **Grand Millennium** (2 nights) D

NOV 9, Monday

AUCKLAND

Explore New Zealand's most populous city on a sightseeing tour featuring the National Museum and Māori gallery, and panoramic views from the Sky Tower. This evening, we gather for a welcome reception and dinner. BD

NOV 10, Tuesday

WAITOMO / ROTORUA

Drift through the magical Waitomo Caves as thousands of glow worms light up the darkness like a starry sky. After some free time, we continue to Rotorua and our lakefront hotel. Visit the Te Puia Thermal Reserve to see bubbling mud pools and geysers, and learn about Māori life and crafts. This evening, enjoy a traditional hāngī dinner in a Māori village, complete with a concert of songs and dances. **Novotel Rotorua Lakeside** (2 nights) BD

NOV 11, Wednesday

ROTORUA

This morning, head to the Agrodome to learn about sheep breeds, watch live shearing and skilled farm dogs in action. Ride the gondola up Mt Ngongotahā to the Skyline Restaurant for a buffet lunch with panoramic views. Then stop by the National Kiwi Hatchery to learn about New

Zealand's national bird and the efforts to protect it. Unwind with time to yourself this afternoon. BL

NOV 12, Thursday ROTORUA / QUEENSTOWN

Fly to the South Island for a three-night stay in New Zealand's resort capital, Queenstown, surrounded by majestic mountains and lake views. This evening, cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard the vintage TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak sheep station, for a lakeside gourmet BBQ buffet featuring local and homegrown produce.

Novotel Queenstown (3 nights) BD

NOV 13, Friday QUEENSTOWN

Spend the day at your own pace, whether you opt for a jet boat ride on the Shotover River, a gondola trip to Bob's Peak, or a stroll by the lake in the Botanic Gardens. B

NOV 14, Saturday MILFORD SOUND

Travel through the rugged Hollyford Valley to Milford Sound for a full day surrounded by the pristine beauty of Fiordland National Park. Cruise its deep, still waters past towering fjords, powerful waterfalls, and the iconic Mitre Peak. BLD

NOV 15, Sunday QUEENSTOWN / MT. COOK / TWIZEL

Wander through the historic gold rush town of Arrowtown, with a visit to the Lakes District Museum. Enjoy a short wine tour and tasting in the cave cellar at Gibbston Valley Winery then continue to Mt. Cook village. Take in the alpine views during free time at the Hermitage before arriving in Twizel. **Mackenzie Country Hotel** (1 night) BD

NOV 16, Monday LAKE TEKAPO / CHRISTCHURCH

Stop at Lake Tekapo to see the picturesque Church of the Good Shepherd, built in 1935 as a tribute to the region's early settlers. Arriving in Christchurch, known as the Garden City for its parks and green spaces, take part in a city sightseeing tour followed by free time to walk the Botanic Gardens. **Distinction Hotel** (1 night) BD

NOV 17, Tuesday CHRISTCHURCH / MELBOURNE

Fly to Melbourne and discover its history, architecture and culture on a city tour. Highlights include the Royal Botanic Gardens, Flinders Street Station, St Paul's Cathedral, and the Olympic Park. The rest of the day is yours to explore.

Rendezvous Melbourne (3 nights) B

NOV 18, Wednesday MELBOURNE / PHILLIP ISLAND

Journey to Phillip Island, stopping at Churchill Island and the Nobbies for coastal views, before witnessing the famous parade of little penguins as they return ashore. BD

NOV 19, Thursday YARRA VALLEY

Ride the historic Puffing Billy steam train through the forested slopes of the Dandenong Ranges. At Healesville Sanctuary, come face to face with iconic Australian wildlife such as kangaroos and koalas, then savour a special lunch with wine tasting before returning to Melbourne. BL

NOV 20, Friday MELBOURNE / AYERS ROCK

Fly to Ayers Rock (Uluru), in the heart of the Outback, a site of spiritual significance to the local Anangu people. Drive through Kata Tjuta National Park for views of Uluru with a stop at the Olgas, a striking formation of domed red rocks. Take a walk into its deep gorges to experience the scale and stillness of the landscape. Then, spend time at a cultural centre to learn about Aboriginal history, law, language, and art. This evening, ride camels through the desert with Uluru and Kata Tjuta as your backdrop.

Sails in the Desert Hotel (2 nights) B



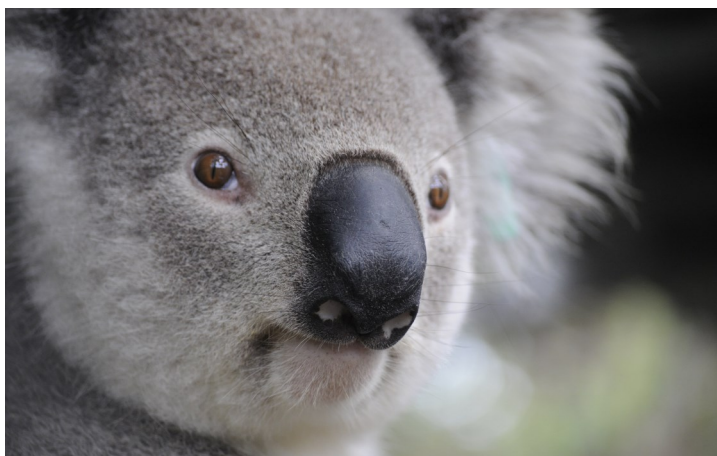
Christchurch: the South Island's largest city



The stunning, dramatic cliffs of Milford Sound



Rising above the Jamison Valley, the Three Sisters stand watch



Up close with one of Australia's most iconic residents

NOV 21, Saturday**AYERS ROCK**

Walk the base trail to Mutitjulu Waterhole, one of the few permanent water sources around Uluru. Shaded by river red gums and alive with wildlife, this sacred place offers a sense of connection with nature and holds deep cultural meaning. On a dune top overlooking Uluru, enjoy canapés and wine as the desert landscape transforms at sunset. A didgeridoo welcomes the night as you dine on a bush tucker menu, then settle back for a resident star talker decoding the brilliant southern sky. BD

NOV 22, Sunday**AYERS ROCK / CAIRNS**

Today we fly to the tropical city of Cairns, gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and Daintree Rainforest. This evening, sit down to a delightful dinner at Dundee's Restaurant. **Novotel Cairns Oasis** (3 nights) BD

NOV 23, Monday**GREAT BARRIER REEF**

Board the Quicksilver catamaran for a full-day adventure to the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef, Earth's largest living structure and a UNESCO Heritage site. Soak up this marine wonder by glass-bottom boat or snorkel among vibrant coral gardens and tropical sea life. BL

NOV 24, Tuesday**KURANDA / SKYRAIL**

Travel by Scenic Railway to the village of Kuranda. Take part in the Dreamtime Walk to learn about Aboriginal customs, tools, and hunting techniques, including spear throwing and boomerang. Then, watch the Pamagirri Dance Show, where traditional dances, didgeridoo music, and storytelling bring local culture to life. After a BBQ lunch, we return to Cairns by Skyrail cableway, gliding over the forest canopy of the Barron Gorge. BL

NOV 25, Wednesday**CAIRNS / SYDNEY**

Fly to Sydney and transfer directly to our hotel. This evening, dine at The Meat & Wine Co, one of Australia's top steakhouses. **The Grace Hotel** (4 nights) BD

NOV 26, Thursday**BLUE MOUNTAINS**

Set out on a full-day tour of the Blue Mountains, passing charming villages, dramatic lookouts, and waterfalls. Stop in Leura before continuing along Cliff Drive to Katoomba for panoramic views of the Jamison Valley and the iconic Three Sisters. After lunch, visit Scenic World for a ride on the Railway, Skyway, or Cableway, each offering a unique perspective of the rainforest and sandstone cliffs. BL

NOV 27, Friday**SYDNEY**

Discover Sydney, a dazzling harbour city known for its iconic skyline and relaxed coastal lifestyle. Tour the historic centre, elegant suburbs, and famous southern beaches. Enjoy a luncheon cruise followed by a guided tour of the Sydney Opera House. Our hotel is ideally located near the lively Darling Harbour, placing the city's best dining, shopping and attractions within reach. The rest of the day is free to discover the charm of this city. BL

NOV 28, Saturday**SYDNEY**

Make the most of a completely free day with plenty of excursion options or the chance to roam independently. Wander the lush Botanic Gardens, soak up the vibrant atmosphere of Darling Harbour, or wander the nearby historic Rocks district. This evening, we'll gather for our farewell dinner at the Harbourfront Restaurant. BD

NOV 29, Sunday**SYDNEY / CANADA**

Our journey concludes as we board our flights home, gaining a day as we arrive in Canada. B

CT Rating 3/5 - Moderately Challenging: This journey involves extensive travel with long flights and travel days. Temperatures will range from comfortable to very hot and humid. Travel in the Outback can be strenuous, involving rough roads and hot conditions. Hotels are comfortable and the locals are very friendly.



**Book by May 29, 2026
and save \$300 per person**

**Tour Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person**

Land Only (Join / Leave Hotel).....	\$14,995
Vancouver	\$17,685
Victoria.....	\$17,745
Calgary / Edmonton.....	\$17,845
Toronto / Ottawa / Montreal.....	\$18,045
Regina / Saskatoon / Winnipeg.....	\$17,985
Halifax*	\$18,185
Saint John* / St. John's	\$18,245
Single Supplement	\$3,995

**Members joining from these cities may receive an overnight hotel stay in lieu of home city transfers*

Land only members join at the hotel in Auckland and leave at the hotel in Sydney. The land only price includes flights to and from the Outback but excludes all other domestic flights in destination.

Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Airfares and air carriers are subject to change and will be confirmed prior to final payment. Refer to inclusive features for more details.

Tour price is based on sharing a twin-bedded room. Prices are based on a minimum of 20 members and on rates, taxes and fees effective July 2025 and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control. Group to be escorted with a minimum of 20 group members.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to our terms and conditions.

Visa Requirements: Travellers will need to apply online for e-visas, inquire for details.

Deposit is \$900 per person.

Final payment is due July 30, 2026

To reserve your place on this tour, please book online through our website or submit an enrollment form along with your deposit to:

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