



Specially prepared program for the Probus Club of Mississauga South

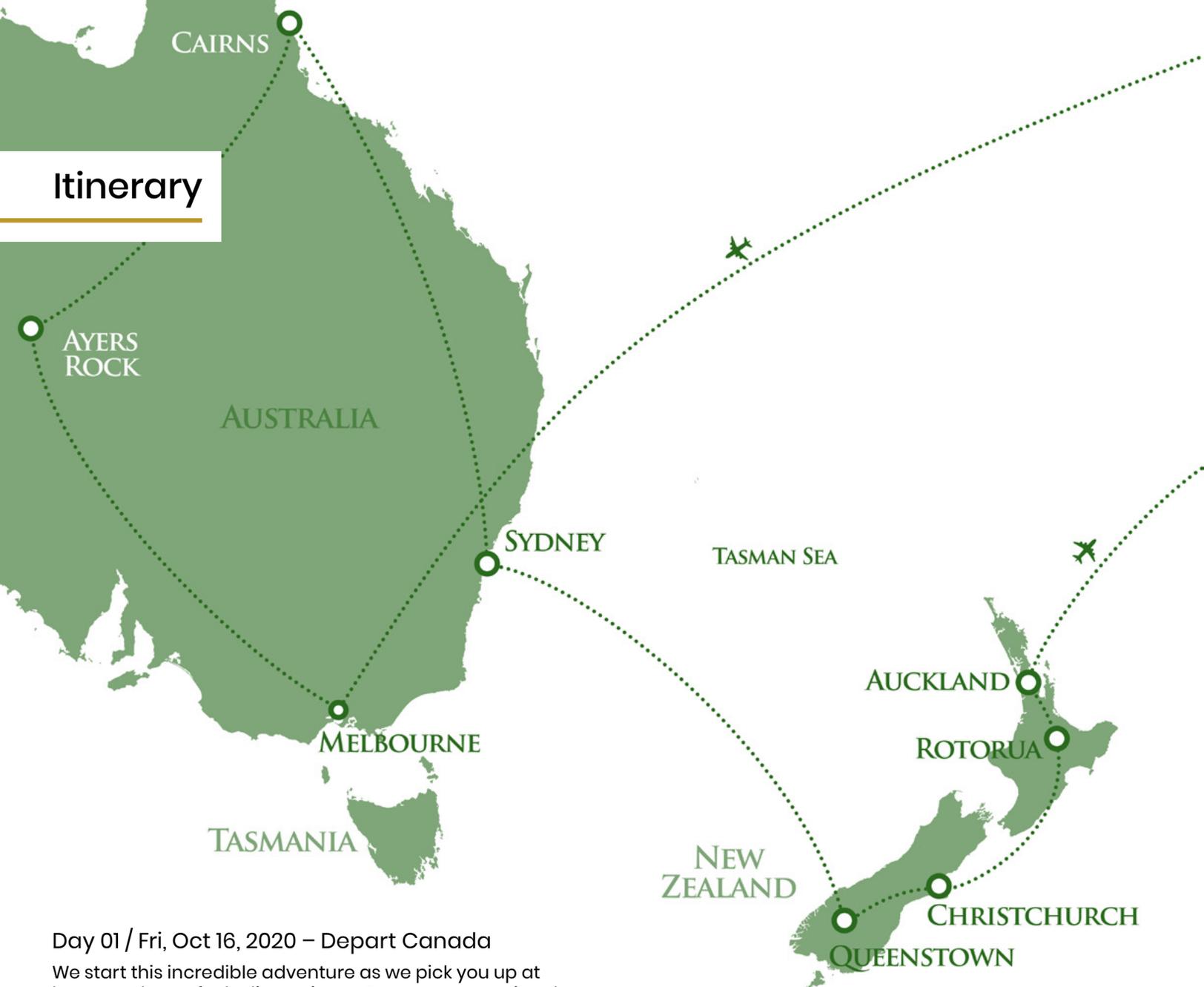
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Oct 16 – Nov 08, 2020 (24 days)



tourdesign.ca

Itinerary



Day 01 / Fri, Oct 16, 2020 – Depart Canada

We start this incredible adventure as we pick you up at home and transfer by limousine to Pearson International Airport. Meals in flight.

Transportation: Air Canada / Qantas Airways

Day 02 / Sat, Oct 17, 2020 – Cross International Dateline, lose one day

Day 03 / Sun, Oct 18, 2020 – Arrival Melbourne, Australia

Welcome to Australia. We arrive in Melbourne and transfer to our hotel. Balance of day at leisure.

Accommodation: Clarion Suites Melbourne Hotel (3 nights)

Day 04 / Mon, Oct 19, 2020 – Melbourne (B,D)

Melbourne panoramic sightseeing tour today. We see Bourke Street Mall, Collins Street, St. Paul's Cathedral, Princess and Regent Theatres, Melbourne Town Hall, Parliament House, the Treasury Building, the Royal Exhibition buildings and the Queen Victoria Markets. All are examples of Melbourne's famous Victoria Architecture. We see the spring flowers at the Royal Botanic Gardens and others

sites within the Kings Domain Gardens. We also visit various sporting arenas including the MCG and Melbourne Park. Arrive back at our hotel to freshen up and have lunch on your own. Mid-afternoon we depart for Phillip Island to experience two of Australia's most popular attractions – the Koala Conservation Centre, where we encounter koalas 'face to face' on the treetop boardwalks, and, "The Penguin Parade" on the beach where each night at sunset we are amazed by 100's of little Penguins waddling ashore to the safety of their homes in the sand dunes after a day's fishing in the sea. Rangers are on hand to provide full interpretation of the worlds' smallest Penguins. Our Welcome dinner is a delicious seafood dinner.



Penguin Parade



Kangaroo

Day 05 / Tue, Oct 20, 2020 – Serendip Open Range Sanctuary (B,L,D)

We depart Melbourne to the Serendip Open Range Sanctuary, where we are immediately amongst wild kangaroos and native birds. Enjoy our special Safari Drive around the Sanctuary to see emus and mobs of kangaroos. A short walk to the lake lets us enjoy the antics of the animals. A picnic lunch is served in an open-air setting at the Sanctuary. Leaving Serendip, we travel just 20 minutes further west to the bushland of Brisbane Ranges National Park which is home to a large and healthy population of wild koalas. After an easy stroll through the gum trees, we can search for koalas, wallabies, kangaroos and birds. Our guide will point out features of interest. We then return to our hotel and have free time this afternoon.

Tonight, depart our hotel to Tram Stop 125 for our special dinner aboard the Colonial Tramcar Restaurant, a converted 1927 tram. These glossy, burgundy vehicles are the first traveling tramcar restaurants and provide a delightful and innovative approach to dining. Dining aboard the Colonial Tramcar Restaurant is not only a culinary delight, but also a trip into a little piece of Victoria's history. Cruising the streets of Melbourne, you will enjoy fine cuisine and the very best of Australian wines or a selection from the all included fully stocked bar. On completion of dinner we transfer back to our hotel.



Colonial Tramcar Restaurant

Day 06 / Wed, Oct 21, 2020 – Melbourne – Ayers Rock (B,D)

We depart to the airport for our domestic flight to Ayers Rock. It is a very significant site for the local aboriginals. Upon arrival in Ayers Rock – iconic to Australia, and a UNESCO World Heritage site, our coach and guide will take us on an Ayers Rock Base Tour conducted by coach as well as a one hour slow walk on level flat ground with the guide providing commentary at each stop. After our tour we will check in to our hotel, have free time for lunch and to relax before our evening entertainment of “The Sounds of Silence” dining experience, a truly unique outback experience and the best of the Red Centre distilled into four hours. A special location is chosen and guests are escorted shortly before sundown, into the desert. The rock changes colours frequently, a didgeridoo echoes across the magical landscapes, while you enjoy your canapes. View the spectacular sunset and feast on Northern Territory delights. Our resident astronomer assists with some of the world's best star gazing. After coffee or tea, we are transferred back to our hotel.

Transportation: Jetstar Airways

Accommodation: Desert Gardens Ayers Rock Hotel (1 night)



Ayers Rock

Day 07 / Thu, Oct 22, 2020 – Ayers Rock (Mount Olga) – Cairns (B)

You have a choice today to remain at the hotel and enjoy the facilities or take our half day coach tour to the nearby Mount Olgas, also known by the aboriginals name of Kata Tjuta. Kata Tjuta is made up of 36 domes which are more ancient than Ayer's Rock (Uluru). Enjoy a short walk to Walpa Gorge, a desert refuge for plants and animals. On completion of our walk, we travel to the Cultural Centre where we can get an introduction to Tjukurpa (law, knowledge, religion and philosophy), Anangu art, the Anangu way of life, history, languages wildlife and Park Management. We then return back to the Desert Gardens to arrive at our hotel for lunch on your own. This afternoon we have a flight from Ayers Rock to Cairns where we are met by our coach and guide and transferred to our hotel.

Transportation: Qantas Airways

Accommodation: Oaks Resort Port Douglas Hotel (4 nights)



Kuranda train in Cairns

Day 08 / Fri, Oct 23, 2020 – Kuranda (B,L)

This morning we depart for another wonderful day of exciting sights as we arrive at Freshwater Rail Station where it is “All Aboard” for the historic rail journey which will take us past sugar cane fields and up the slopes leading to the Barron Gorge. The journey ends in Kuranda, the principal town of the Atherton Tablelands some 2000 feet above sea level. From here we travel to the World Heritage Rainforestation Tour by World War II amphibious Army Ducks, a totally unique and exciting experience on land and water. Our “Duck Captain” (guide) will identify the many different species of flora and fauna. Our guide will explain the mysteries of the forest as we cross part of the 40 hectares to see Tree ferns, Staghornes, Strangler fig, Stinging trees and rare orchids. See butterflies (Ulysses and Cairns Birdwing) and birds like the Azure Kingfisher and Rainbow Bee-Eater plus many more. The “Duck” splashes into the lake and with propeller engaged, cruises up to the jungle. At the water’s edge you may see Water Dragons and Pythons sunbaking and slithering up trees. On completion we enjoy a tropical bush barbeque before travelling to Kuranda where we have free time to explore this tranquil village independently. From here we travel down from Kuranda by catching the scenic Skyrail Gondola for the journey back to the coast, literally passing through and over the heights of the rainforest. We then transfer to our hotel.

Day 09 / Sat, Oct 24, 2020 – Free Day (B)

Day at leisure in Port Douglas. Enjoy relaxing around the pool, a walk along the ocean, a delightful meal at an outdoor café with friends or some shopping.



Quicksilver Wavepiercer



Day 10 / Sun, Oct 25, 2020 – Great Barrier Reef / day cruise (B,L)

This morning, we depart our hotel by Quicksilver Connections and drive north along the scenic Cook’s Highway where we embark on the Quicksilver Wavepiercer – a 45.5 meter high speed catamaran and journey to the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef, the most spectacular undersea garden in the world. At the reef, we are at a large platform where we can view the coral. There is a semi submarine, and underwater viewing platform, or if you prefer, scuba dive with a tank (optional). Quicksilver has facilities to enable both swimmers and non-swimmer to experience this stunning reef world. We strongly suggest you at least get into the water and try to snorkel as staff will assist you in getting fitted and provide a short “how to” lesson. They also provide flotation devices. There is nothing more thrilling than being in the sea at the Great Barrier Reef looking at the colourful fish and coral. Even those who do not swim can enjoy this experience. A deluxe buffet lunch will be served during the time you are at the reef. Arrive back at Port Douglas Marina where we have a limited amount of time before travelling back to our hotel.

Day 11 / Mon, Oct 26, 2020 – Mossman Gorge (B)

This morning we depart the hotel for a half day guided tour to Mossman Gorge – close to our hotel. Experience the wonders of the World Heritage-listed Daintree Rainforest and discover pristine waterfalls, mountains and vivid flora and fauna. After your guided walk, spend time browsing through the centre’s contemporary Indigenous art gallery, visit the gift shop or relax at the Mayi Café. Transfer to the airport to fly from Cairns to Sydney. We are met at the Sydney airport and transferred to our hotel.

Transportation: Qantas Airways

Accommodation: The Grace Hotel Sydney (4 nights)



Sydney Opera House

Day 12 / Tue, Oct 27, 2020 – Sydney (B,L)

This morning we depart our hotel for our tour of the sights of Sydney, from Victorian architecture to modern skyscrapers. We see the Botanical Gardens, Lady Macquarie's Chair and the iconic Sydney Opera House and Sydney Bridge. We then head to King Street Wharf for our spectacular lunch cruise with Magistic Cruise to view Sydney harbor. Lunch (buffet) on a selection of seafood, gourmet roasts, chef's daily specials, crisp salads, seasonal fruit and divine desserts and Australian Cheeses. After our lunch cruise, we walk across to the Sydney Opera House which is an easy flat 10 to 15 minute walk where we enjoy our guided tour of this famous building. Upon completion of our tour we transfer back to our hotel.



Tobruk Sheep Station

Day 13 / Wed, Oct 28, 2020 – Tobruk Sheep Station, Koala Park Sanctuary (B,L)

Depart Sydney for an excursion to Tobruk Sheep Station, located North West of Sydney, overlooking the Blue Mountains. This is a very interesting and informative farm visit. Experience Billy Tea and Damper, the traditional refreshment for stockmen and drovers. You will enjoy watching the mustering of sheep by the dogs through the yards. We will see a demonstration of sheep shearing, the Wool Room, whip cracking and the Aboriginal boomerang techniques. Guests will be escorted into the homestead for a traditional home cooked Aussie BBQ.

Depart Tobruk and travel east to Koala Park Sanctuary. On arrival at Koala Park, your guide and her dingo will meet you and take you on a brief tour of the sanctuary. Here you will have the opportunity to see and possibly touch koalas, feed kangaroos and see wombats as well as the other varied Australian wildlife in the park.

Day 14 / Thu, Oct 29, 2020 – Bronte to Bondi excursion (B,D)

This morning we depart the hotel for our Bronte to Bondi excursion. Arriving at Bronte Beach we commence our walk across the magnificent Sydney Coastline ending with an independent lunch overlooking Australia's most famous Bondi Beach. If you are looking for a timeless souvenir, then shop for precious opals, the gemstone of Australia, with 95% of the world's supply. We return to our hotel to enjoy the balance of the day at leisure. Tonight we will have dinner at Nick's Seafood Grill Restaurant at Darling Harbour while we recap our shared experiences of our visit to Australia.



Bondi Beach, Sydney

Day 15 / Fri, Oct 30, 2020 – Sydney – Queenstown, New Zealand (B,D)

We transfer from our hotel to Sydney International airport for our flight to New Zealand.

Upon arrival we are met and transferred to our hotel for the next three nights. Dinner at the FINZ Seafood and Grill offering casual relaxed waterfront dining right in the heart of Queenstown. FINZ is a delightful bustling seafood bistro where you can enjoy the wholesome flavours of New Zealand.

Transportation: Qantas Airways

Accommodation: Rydges Queenstown Hotel (3 nights)



Cruise Milford

Day 16 / Sat, Oct 31, 2020 – Milford Sound (B,L)

The road to Milford Sound allows you to enjoy the best scenery the Fiordland National Park has to offer including the world's highest waterfalls – a popular feature of Milford Sound. You will see why “Lord of the Rings Trilogy” was filmed in this stunning scenery. Deluxe picnic lunch en-route. We will join “Cruise Milford”, where we travel on smaller boats which are less crowded, for an informative and personal tour of Milford Sound by our local crew. On a sunny day, it is beautiful and on a wet day, it is spectacular! Milford Sound is widely considered to be one of the world's top travel destinations. We revisit spectacular views as we return by coach to Queenstown.



Queenstown's Skyline restaurant

Day 17 / Sun, Nov 1, 2020 – Queenstown (B,L,D)

This morning we drive up to Arrowtown, a place almost frozen in time as a former gold rush town. Enjoy lunch in the Gibbston Valley which is the coolest and highest of the Central Otago regions with the majority of land gently sloping to the north. This northerly aspect greatly assists vineyards to grow grapes because of increased sunlight and with a reduced possibility of frost. Our afternoon includes a scenic drive along Lake Wakatipu towards Glenorchy, a small settlement, and a stop off at some luscious botanical gardens and tea rooms along the way, before enjoying a walk through the forest at Glenorchy. This evening we take a gondola ride up to a mountaintop Skyline restaurant for a meal with incredible views over “The Remarkable” mountains.



Mount Cook, New Zealand

Day 18 / Mon, Nov 2, 2020 – Queenstown – Mount Cook – Christchurch (B,L)

Today you'll drive through the heart of the South Island, crossing the vast Canterbury plains. Catch your breath in Geraldine before continuing through Fairlie. Ascending Burkes pass you'll come to the picturesque lakeside town of Tekapo. We have lunch at the L'Hermitage with spectacular views of Mount Cook in the background. Our destination is Christchurch, the provincial capital that also serves as the international gateway to the many scenic wonders of the South Island. Our contact has commented that this is the most beautiful drive in Zealand. This route also serves as the international gateway to the many scenic wonders of the South Island.

Accommodation: Chateau on the Park Hotel (2 nights)



Christchurch

Day 19 / Tue, Nov 3, 2020 – Christchurch (B,L)

Our sightseeing in Christchurch is both with coach and easy walking tour. We will hear about the terrible effects of the 2011 Earthquake here. This is the most English of New Zealand's cities. Punts glide down the picturesque Avon River, vintage trams rattle down the streets and many parks and Botanical gardens adorn the city which is small enough to be negotiated on foot. Lunch is included at a local restaurant. An easy drive to The Banks Peninsula features two dominant craters forming the Lyttelton and Akaroa harbours. We return to Christchurch for balance of the day at leisure. You might like to visit the International Antarctic Centre, the home base for the United States, Italian and New Zealand Antarctic programs.

Day 20 / Wed, Nov 4, 2020 – Christchurch – Rotorua (B,D)

Transfer to the airport for flight from Christchurch to Rotorua. Upon arrival into Rotorua we meet our coach and driver and transfer to our hotel. Rotorua sits at the heart of New Zealand's geothermal activity and is a major focus for the Maori Culture. After our transfer to our hotel, free time for lunch and to relax this afternoon. Through the town, steamy mineral lakes, bursting geysers and bubbling mud pools release a pungent smell of hydrogen gas pours out of the countless boxes and ground fissures. We spend our evening at Mitai Maori village which offers a genuine introduction to an indigenous cultural experience in a sacred and spiritual place.

We learn the significant history of this area during their cultural performance featuring displays of weaponry and combat. Enjoy the grace and beauty of the poi dance, learn about their carvings and "ta moko" tattoo art. See your traditionally cooked Hangi meal being lifted from the ground – an experience like no other. The Mitai family is proud to have created a sacred and spiritual place and the evening will leave you enthralled by the fascinating Maori culture.

*Transportation: Air New Zealand
Accommodation: Millennium Rotorua Hotel (2 nights)*



Mitai Maori Village

Day 21 / Thu, Nov 5, 2020 – Rotorua (B,L)

We tour in Rotorua today. The striking Tudor-style architecture in this town is very attractive. The Rotorua Bath House, an architectural icon, now houses a museum featuring the mythology, history and geology of the region. Rotorua's large Maori population are among the most interesting and accessible in New Zealand. At Te Puia we tour the New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and enjoy a steam box lunch prepared the traditional way, cooked over steam vents. Also included is a visit to the Kiwi House. The kiwi is a nocturnal flightless bird and New Zealand's national icon. A unique experience finishes our day, the Redwoods Tree walk is a 600-metre long, eco-tourism walk in the heart of Rotorua's Redwood Forest. This walk includes a series of 23 suspension bridges and traverses 22 majestic Redwood trees that are more than 117-years-old.



Rotorua Bath House



Waitomo Glowworm Caves

Day 22 / Fri, Nov 6, 2020 – Rotorua – Waitomo – Auckland (B,L)

We move by coach today as we travel from Rotorua to Auckland. En-route we stop at Waitomo Glowworm Caves, a must-see for any traveller. The glow worm, *Arachnocampa luminosa*, is unique to New Zealand. Marvel at Mother Nature's light display as you glide silently by boat through the starry wonderland of the Glowworm Grotto. Enjoy a barbeque lunch at Waitomo. We continue on to Auckland, known as the "City of Sails". The twin harbours, outlying islands and the clear waters of the Pacific Ocean welcome us.

Accommodation: Stamford Plaza Auckland Hotel (2 nights)



Auckland Skyline

Day 23 / Sat, Nov 7, 2020 – Auckland (B,L,D)

This is New Zealand's biggest city and has a spectacular location straddling an isthmus between two harbours, with 48 volcanic cones scattered across the city. We travel around the city centre by coach, over the Auckland Harbour Bridge, continuing along the waterfront to the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial Park that was named after a much-respected Prime Minister of New Zealand. Auckland's Maori heritage is celebrated at the Auckland War Memorial Museum (admission included) Our tour will pause for lunch in charming Parnell Village where historic buildings house an interesting range of boutique stores. We finish our tour at the Sky Tower, the tallest man-made structure in New Zealand – 328 meters high. Prepare yourself for breathtaking 360 views from the observation deck of this Auckland landmark. Our farewell dinner this evening is at the Botswana Butchery, superbly located at the wharf with spectacular views of ferries crossing the harbour.

Day 24 / Sun, Nov 8, 2020 – Depart Auckland (B)

Depart early morning for your flights home. We cross the International Dateline and gain one day.

Transportation: Qantas Airways / Air Canada

END OF TOUR B – breakfast, L – lunch, D – dinner

Pricing & Terms

PACKAGE RATE (CAD\$, PER PERSON)

\$13,800 per person based on double occupancy
\$17,210 per person based on single occupancy

INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip international flights from Toronto to Melbourne and Auckland to Toronto
- 5 local flights: Melbourne to Ayers Rock, Ayers Rock to Cairns, Cairns to Sydney, Sydney to Queenstown, and Christchurch to Rotorua
- Limousine transfers from your home to Pearson International Airport round trip (*within GTA*)
- 21 nights accommodation at hotels with daily breakfast
- 12 lunches and 8 dinners as per itinerary including water, coffee/tea. 1 local wine/beer/soft drink included for dinner on day 5, day 6, and day 23
- Private coach with English speaking driver guide
- Tours and transfers as per itinerary with admission included
- Porterage at hotel wherever available (*1 piece of luggage per person*)
- All gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Australian Visa

EXCLUSIONS

- Airport departure taxes and fuel surcharges currently \$650 per person, subject to change until time of final payment.
- Alcoholic beverages unless specific
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Optional travel insurance

AIR CREDIT

If you wish to arrange your own air from Toronto to Melbourne and Auckland to Toronto, an air credit of CAD\$1,100 per person will be deducted from the tour cost. Please contact us for air deviation, premium economy or business class upgrade surcharges.

SPECIAL NOTE

- Names provided at time of booking **MUST** match exactly your passport
- You must have a passport valid for at least 6 months after your return date
- If you wish to purchase optional travel insurance with us, it **MUST** be purchase prior to final payment date. Please contact us for a quotation.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT

At time of booking:
\$250 per person (*non-refundable*)

Second deposit:
\$750 per person due Sept 01, 2019

Third deposit:
\$1,500 per person due Jan 10, 2020

Final payment:
remaining balance due Jun 12, 2020

CANCELLATION TERMS

Between time of booking and Aug 30, 2019:
\$250 per person

Between Sept 01, 2019 and Jan 09, 2020:
\$1,000 per person

Between Jan 10, 2020 and Jun 11, 2020:
\$2,500 per person

Between Jun 12, 2020 & date of departure:
100% of total cost

Program designed in conjunction with Neal Black,
World Travel for The Probus Club of Mississauga South

Email: neal@jooeey.com or call 905-279-9175.

To book this program, please complete the Booking Form and email, mail or fax to Tour Design.



TOUR DESIGN

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