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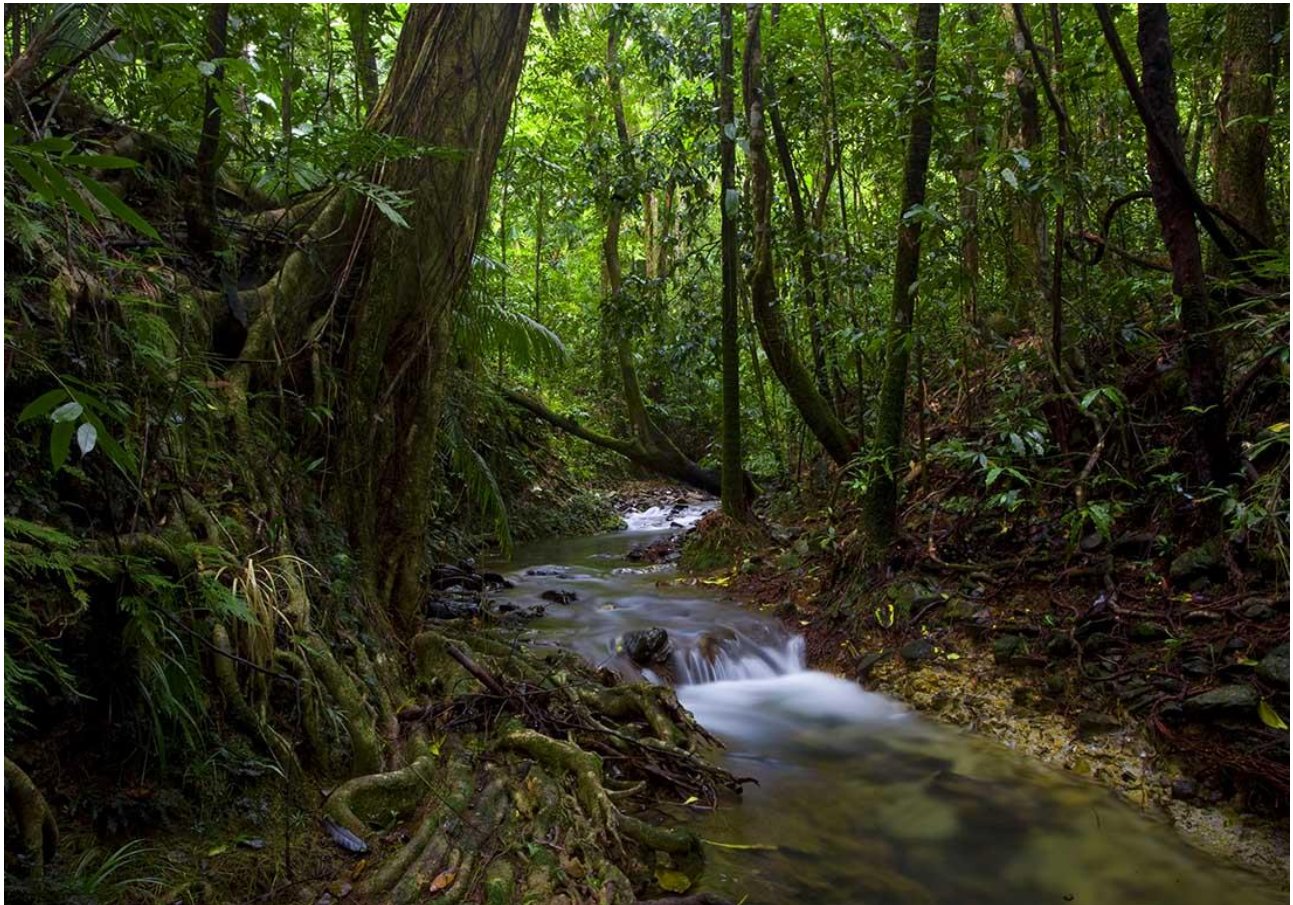
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*President's  Picks*

**Australia Unbound**

**32 days**



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*"I return to Australia on a regular basis because I find the country exhilarating, challenging and a great deal of fun. In this journey I have tried to present the diversity that Australia offers – from its eccentric islands such as Philip Island with its nightly penguin parade, to the stunning Great Ocean Road, to the famed Indian Pacific Great Southern Railway, to the rich wine history. But even that is not nearly enough. Its distinctive cities, remarkably varied landscapes and fascinating people leave you feeling that you have had a unique travel experience."*

## Day By Day Itinerary

### Day 1: Melbourne, Australia

Welcome to Australia! Upon arrival at Melbourne International Airport you will be met by a representative of Big Five who will hand over your Australian documentation and transfer you by private vehicle to your accommodation. This afternoon, you will be met at your accommodation by your private driver and vehicle



for your Melbourne city sights tour. For a uniquely different view, explore Melbourne's Jewish community, which has been an integral part of the city from its very beginning. A local Jewish guide show you historic sites and neighborhood haunts. Indulge in local versions of ancient Jewish delicacies and hear about the rich, cultural life this community has made for itself in Australia. With dozens of beautiful synagogues, leading day schools, museums and cultural institutions, the Melbourne Jewish community is a fascinating and thriving one. Learn about the fascinating stories that begin with post-war renewal

and follow a common path of success and patronage. Like so many others, the local Jewish community has turned Melbourne into a vibrant place. With treasures and traditions from its mostly European origins.

Equally passionate about football and ballet, food and fashion, Melbourne is revealed at every bend of the Yarra, and in every tiny city arcade and colorful suburb that fringe the city. Take a tram to the Greek eateries and bargain factory outlet shopping in Richmond or the designer boutiques in style conscious South Yarra. See world class performing arts and galleries at Southbank and trendy cafes at the beachside suburb of St Kilda.

Savor a luxurious sanctuary of fine dining and exquisite appointments, just minutes from Melbourne's cosmopolitan downtown. Your hotel boasts large rooms, marble bathrooms with oversized glass showers, deep soaking tubs and in-bathroom television viewing. Dine at the award-winning Raddi Restaurant and bar, which is renowned for its creative, modern cuisine and dramatic art-deco influenced interior. **Park Hyatt Melbourne – King Park Suite**

### Day 2: Melbourne

This morning, you join your private guide and vehicle for a full day exploration of the Great Ocean Road. Gain insight into the Australian surfing culture at Bells Beach, with rugged cliffs and big waves. Visit the historic Split Point Lighthouse, in the town of Aireys Inlet. This beacon of light is credited with saving hundreds of ships and thousands of lives along Australia's treacherous 'shipwreck coast'.

Soak up the atmosphere of Victoria's premier holiday town, Lorne, before marveling at the cliff-hugging road that stretches between Lorne and Apollo Bay. It is one of the most spectacular roads in the world, home to monstrous cliffs, roaring seas, tranquil coves and secluded beaches. En route, visit the wild Koalas of Kennet





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River and get acquainted with some of Australia's most colorful birds.

A delicious lunch at a local restaurant is included this afternoon. Then, climb aboard your light aircraft and



take one of the world's truly great scenic flights. For the rest of the road, you'll be flying high. Enjoy breathtaking aerial views of the 12 Apostles, Moonlight Head, Cape Otway Light Station, Gibson's Steps and Loch Ard Gorge before a gentle touch down back in Apollo Bay. Your journey back to Melbourne is a relaxing drive that will take you through the majestic Otway Ranges, arriving back at your Melbourne accommodation.

### **Park Hyatt Melbourne – King Park Suite (B,L)**

#### **Day 3: Melbourne**

This morning is at leisure. In the early afternoon, you will be met at your accommodation by your private guide and vehicle for an unforgettable ranger-led adventure to Phillip Island. Spend the afternoon on a private tour with one of the island's rangers, who are passionate experts with knowledge in the island's flora and fauna, unique and varied birdlife plus the fascinating indigenous Aboriginal history of this small, yet diverse island. The afternoon is tailored to your passions and interests. You will also come face to face with Australia's most iconic marsupial at the Koala Conservation Centre, and catch a glimpse of the world's second largest Australian fur seal colony through the interactive cameras at the Nobbies Center.

End an unforgettable day with a delightful wildlife encounter – watching the sunset return to the island of the little penguins during a small-group, evening visit to a stunning secluded beach. For dinner you are invited to dine on delicious local produce as you take in the panoramic ocean views before you return to your accommodation.



*Please note: Ranger led tours may vary according to your Ranger's area of expertise, your interests as well as weather conditions. You are invited to advise your personal preferences in advance or discuss the content of the tour with your tour guide and the Philip Island Nature Parks ranger on the day.* **Park Hyatt Melbourne – King Park Suite (B,D)**

#### **Day 4: Melbourne / Cairns / Daintree Forest**

This morning, you will be met by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to Melbourne Domestic Airport to meet your onward flight to Cairns (airfare additional). Upon arrival at Cairns Airport, you are welcomed by your private driver and car and transferred to your accommodation (approximate 1.5-hour journey).

The remainder of the day is at leisure. While at Silky Oaks, you may like to enjoy some of the complimentary activities included in your stay such as guided rainforest walks; canoeing and snorkeling on the Mossman River; a bicycle ride; or a game of tennis. Optional activities (additional charge applies) include: scenic flights



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over Mossman Gorge and the reef; spa treatments in the Healing Waters Spa; horse riding; hot air ballooning; rainforest picnics; and rafting expeditions. *Please note that many optional activities listed on your itinerary, including Spa treatments at Silky Oaks Lodge require a minimum 24 hours advance notice. Please contact Southern Crossings or the property direct for any booking requests.* Your luxury lodge is nestled on the edge of a UNESCO World Heritage-listed wilderness – Daintree National Park, the oldest living rainforest on earth. **Silky Oaks Lodge – King Billabong Suite (B)**

### Day 5: Daintree Forest

This morning, you will be met at your accommodation by guide and vehicle for a private full day tour to the Daintree Rainforest. Travel north along scenic coastal roads to Cooya Beach. (Kuku Kuku). This special place is a traditional fishing ground of the Kuku Yalanji people. It is a unique area of three diverse ecosystems – beach, mangroves and coastal reef. Here one of the Kubirri Warra brothers will teach you how to throw a spear and other Aboriginal hunting techniques. Walk with the brothers on their traditional land as you learn how to track and hunt for fish, mud crabs and mussels through the mangroves. The brothers demonstrate different Aboriginal artefacts and their uses before you head further north to the Daintree National Park.



Your journey takes you up the beautiful Alexandra Range where you can take a scenic walk through this amazing eco system. Immerse yourself inside protected forests as you are taken on a guided walk to view ancient plants and amazing wildlife. The *wet tropics* provide one of the richest sites for biodiversity on earth and Daintree is a place of spectacular beauty, rugged mountains, deep gorges and flowing rivers. Your guide will also provide you with insight into the local Aboriginal culture of the area. Lunch today is a delicious meal which includes rainforest-inspired local produce. Visit the magical beaches that adorn the coastline of Cape Tribulation before returning to your hotel in the late afternoon. **Silky Oaks Lodge – King Billabong Suite (B)**

### Day 6: Daintree Forest

Today you will be met at your accommodation by your private car and driver and transferred to The Reef



Marina for your private charter cruise aboard MV Monsoon, which offers private luxury cruising in the most spectacular reef areas of Australia's northern Great Barrier Reef. It is based in Port Douglas, which is the closest port to the magnificent outer reefs. The crew will pamper you with unobtrusive service in elegant surrounds as you discover superb wilderness reefs. Explore the underwater scenery snorkeling, try your skills fishing with our expert. Enjoy lunch on board as well as fishing equipment if you want to try a spot of fishing. **Silky Oaks Lodge – King Billabong Suite (B)**

### Day 7: Daintree Forest / Cairns / Darwin / Bamurru Plains

Today you will be met at your accommodation by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to Cairns





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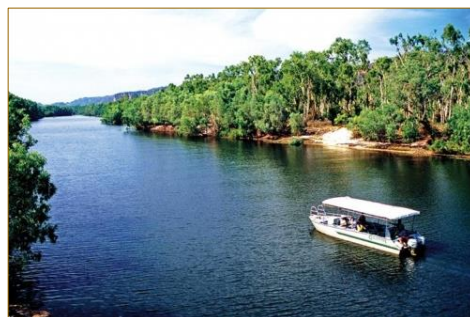
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Domestic Airport for your onward flight to Darwin (airfare additional). Upon arrival in Darwin, you go to the General Aviation Terminal at Darwin Airport, where you board your private single engine aircraft for a scenic flight to Bamurru Plains (approximate 30-minute flight, cost included). *Please note that luggage is restricted to 15 kg per passenger in soft bags only.*

Bamurru Plains is an extraordinary wilderness experience on the coastal floodplains of the Mary River Delta and situated just west of Kakadu National Park, in Australia's Northern Territory. Upon arrival at Bamurru Plains airstrip you will be transferred to your accommodation. Each of the nine Safari Bungalows blends seamlessly with the surrounding bush, with a focus on luxury comforts, a supremely comfortable bed, innovative Australian cuisine and premium wines. It is the soft touches that surprise in this remote bush location and the understated luxury is very much in tune with the environment. This luxury camp exudes 'wild bush luxury' ensuring that guests are exposed to the sights and sounds of this spectacular environment in style and exclusivity. Bamurru's team of passionate field guides offers a variety of activities, including exhilarating airboat trips on the floodplains, cruises on the Sampan River to spot crocodiles, fishing trips, four-wheel drive safaris, scenic helicopter flights over the floodplains and coastline, and tours to the rock art galleries of Arnhem Land. Your lodge offers a self-service bar with a selection of beverages available to guests throughout the day, and the resident chef provides contemporary Australian cuisine with hints of bush food and native produce.



**Bamurru Plains Swim Creek Station – Safari Bungalow (B,D)**

#### **Day 8: Bamurru Plains**

This morning you will be met by your driver and vehicle for your private Kakadu National Park exploration. Experience the magnificence of Kakadu National Park, in a private group in a comfortable vehicle with regular stops, iced water, snacks and lunch provided. Upon entering the park, your first stop is Ubirr Rock, where your guide will lead you on a walk through the ancient rock art galleries, home to some of the oldest rock art in the world. As you move through these galleries, you go up to Nadab Lookout, which provides amazing views across the floodplains towards Arnhem Land.

Travel to the East Alligator River to join the Guluyambi Cultural Cruise to see and learn about the area, its history and culture through the eyes of the traditional owners of the land. Following your cruise, your guide will transfer you to Jabiru Airstrip for your 40-minute scenic flight back to the Bamurru Plains airstrip.

**Bamurru Plains Swim Creek Station – Safari Bungalow (B,L,D)**

#### **Day 9: Bamurru Plains**

During your stay at Bamurru Plains, you can participate in a number of activities including the following: airboat trips, which are the best way to access the floodplains and see the extraordinary birdlife up close; crocodile rivers cruises in late afternoon to search for these elusive creatures; barramundi fishing (additional cost); wildlife viewing in the wetlands, a meeting ground for thousands of birds and animals; and 4WD safaris in an open-top camp "bull catcher," an ideal vehicle for exploring savannah bush and plains. **Bamurru Plains Swim Creek Station – Safari Bungalow (B,D)**

#### **Day 10: Bamurru Plains / Kununurra**

Today you are transferred to the airstrip for your onward private flight to Darwin Airport (cost included). Upon arrival at Darwin Airport, make your way independently to meet your onward flight to Kununurra (airfare



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additional). Upon arrival at Kununurra Airport, you will be met by a representative of El Questro and transferred to your accommodation (approximately a 1.5-hour drive west of Kununurra).



El Questro Homestead is an exclusive retreat cantilevered over the magnificent Chamberlain River amid the rugged Kimberley landscape. Decorated with antiques, the Homestead boasts a pool, spa and tennis court set in lush, tropical gardens. Beautifully appointed, air-conditioned bedrooms have private bathrooms and verandahs, with relaxing garden and river views. The Homestead offers unrivalled access to the far reaches of the Kimberley. Barramundi fishing, horse trekking, gourmet picnics by helicopter, boating the Chamberlain Gorge, and more are

options here. **El Questro Homestead – Chamberlain Suite (B,D)**

### **Day 11: Kununurra**

This morning, enjoy a two-hour helicopter flight over ancient Kimberley landscapes, the famous King George Falls with its double waterfalls, and the unique Kimberley Coast. Pass over Cape Dussejour before heading south over the Cambridge Gulf, the historic town of Wyndham and the Cockburn Range. The afternoon is at leisure. While at El Questro Wilderness Park, you can select from a menu of optional activities that encompass a cruise of the Chamberlain Gorge; visits to El Questro Gorge, Explosion Gorge or thermal pools; barramundi fishing; horse trekking; an exploration of local wildlife with a guide; scenic helicopter flight (additional costs apply); and scenic flights of Lake Argyle and the Bungle Bungles (additional costs apply). **El Questro Homestead – Chamberlain Suite (B,L,D)**

### **Day 12: Kununurra**

Set out on this nine-hour adventure of the Kimberley and El Questro, beginning with a guided walk up Emma Gorge. Enjoy a refreshing dip in Zebedee Springs and a 'Beef or Barra' lunch, followed by an afternoon cruise of Chamberlain Gorge. **El Questro Homestead – Chamberlain Suite (B,L,D)**



### **Day13: Kununurra / Perth**

This morning, you will be met and transferred to Kununurra Airport for your onward flight (approximately a one hour and 30 minutes) to Perth (airfare additional). Upon arrival at Perth Airport, you will be greeted by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to your accommodation.

The sun-kissed modern city of Perth basks in its glorious isolation from the rest of the country. Here the city's glittering skyline is reflected in the Swan River. Perth's pleasures extend beyond its city limits; dozens of golden beaches line its coast. To the south, is the vibrant port city of Fremantle which seamlessly combines its maritime and convict heritage with bustling street markets, trendy restaurants and microbreweries. The hotel occupies the "State Buildings", a group of late Victorian stone and brick buildings which have played an important role in the city's history. The restoration project has returned 95% of the buildings to their 19th-century origins.





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Your hotel's architecture includes columns and bold, cantilevered balconies designed in flamboyant neo-Renaissance style. The Wildflower restaurant showcases the best of West Australian ingredients. Menus are produce-driven, with chefs relying on local farmers and foragers. The rooftop space – a long, thin, steel-framed glass box on the 4th floor, look out over the city and down the Swan River. **Como The Treasure Hotel – Treasury Suite (B)**

#### **Day 14: Perth**

This morning, you join your driver and vehicle for a shared, full-day discovery of Pinnacles Desert area. After stopping at Caversham Wildlife Park in the Swan Valley to view koalas and wombats and hand-feed kangaroos, you travel along quiet back roads to the lobster fishing town of Cervantes. Once here, take a behind-the-scenes factory tour on the processing of Western Australian rock lobster.

Enjoy a gourmet bento-style chicken salad picnic lunch complete with dessert, cheese and biscuits. You can, if you prefer, pre-order lobster. Then it is on to the mystical Pinnacles Desert for an easy-paced walk through the fascinating landscape. The highlight of the afternoon involves four-wheeling over the vast sand dunes of Lancelin in custom-built vehicles. Then, you have the opportunity for some exciting downhill sand boarding over these constantly moving dunes. Late this afternoon, return to Perth along Indian Ocean Drive stopping to view endemic flora en route, depending on season. **Como The Treasure Hotel – Treasury Suite (B)**



#### **Day 15: Perth – Indian Pacific Great Southern Railway**

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private car and driver and transferred to Perth Railway station for your onward train journey about the famed Indian Pacific.

*Please Note: 75kg of luggage per person for Platinum Service may be conveyed free of charge in the luggage car. This allows 3 items not exceeding 25kg each and not exceeding 180 linear centimeters. Due to space constraints, guests should only take on board hand luggage required for their journey. Luggage check-in opens 2 hours prior to departure and will close 60 minutes prior to departure. Please note, checked in luggage cannot be accessed during the journey. You may take one small suitcase not exceeding 10kg per person plus hand luggage including garment bag, cabin bag and briefcase.*

The Indian Pacific, or 'IP' as it is affectionately known to train buffs around the world, has travelled more than 30 million kilometers/18,641,135 miles, and carried around 2.9 million guests since its inaugural transcontinental journey on February 23, 1970. During your journey, enjoy optional touring at scheduled stops such as the gold-rich Kalgoorlie and a remote outpost on the Nullarbor Plain called Cook, population two. Arrive in Kalgoorlie late this evening. The early 1900s were a time of easy gold mining on the surface, but the big companies soon went deep underground. Since 1893, the Kalgoorlie gold deposits have produced over 50,000,000 ounces (1,400 tons) of gold, by far the most to be extracted from any one source in Australia.

**Indian Pacific Great Southern Railway – Platinum Cabin (B,L,D)**



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### Day 16: Indian Pacific Great Southern Railway

Depart Kalgoorlie in the early morning hours as your train takes you through outback mining towns and outposts, along the world's longest straight stretch of railway track (478 kilometers/298 miles) across the treeless Nullarbor Plain. Unique landscapes unfold and a fascinating array of wildlife may be spotted from the comfort of the lounge or your cabin. All along the Indian Pacific route, keep your eyes peeled for a sighting of the magnificent Australian wedge-tailed eagle, the symbol of this great train. Its massive wingspan of up to two meters/more than 6.5 feet will make it easy to spot in a clear desert sky. **Indian Pacific Great Southern Railway – Platinum cabin (B,L,D)**



### Day 17: Indian Pacific Great Southern Railway / Adelaide / Kangaroo Island

Arrive in Adelaide early this morning. Adelaide has a reputation as one of the most livable cities in the world with its wide leafy streets and elegant architecture. The city's square mile is home to the state's major cultural institutions including Government House, Parliament House and Tandanya, an Aboriginal cultural institute. Within close proximity to the city are the hills of the Mt. Lofty Ranges and 30 kilometers/18.6 miles of sandy coastline.



Upon arrival at Adelaide Railway station, you will be met by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to Adelaide airport to meet your short flight (cost included) to Kangaroo Island.

*Please note: Luggage limit of 15 kg/33 lb. per person applies and excess is charged at A\$7.70 for 1 kg/2.2 lb. Luggage storage is available with the airline for international guests at a fee of A\$7.70 per bag paid direct to Rex. If storing excess luggage, please ensure luggage is pre-packed and labelled, ready to store.*

Upon arrival, you are welcomed by a representative of the lodge and transferred to your accommodation (approximate one hour drive). A stone's throw from the South Australian coast, Kangaroo Island is Australia's third largest island. It is a microcosm of diverse landscapes. The untamed coastline is home to colonies of sea lions and New Zealand fur seals and its bushland shelters wallabies, kangaroos, koalas and a plethora of birdlife.

Setting a new standard in luxury lodge accommodation in Australia, Southern Ocean Lodge is a tranquil island haven of comfort and privacy, surrounded by nature at its finest. The lodge appears to float on the cliff tops of the island's rugged southwest coast, showcasing the wild Southern Ocean from floor-to-ceiling windows. The lodge's contemporary environmental design is the ultimate fusion of nature and luxury. With just 21 suites and retreats, this is the perfect base to explore the coastal wilderness and abundant wildlife. King-sized beds, comfortable lounge area, dramatic glass walled bathrooms and private outdoor terraces sport uninterrupted views of the ocean and offer the perfect place to simply unwind and relax. Brimming with diverse wildlife and natural beauty, Kangaroo Island is a place of extraordinary contrasts. The lodge's comprehensive range of personalized interpretive signature experiences present visitors with endless opportunities for exploration and adventure. **Southern Ocean Lodge – Remarkable Suite (B,L,D)**





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### Day 18: Kangaroo Island

Kangaroo Island is some 155 km/93 mi long, and 55 km/34 mi at its widest. Substantial tracts of bushland remain undisturbed and support rich and diverse flora and fauna seldom found elsewhere. Set in natural bush land, Southern Ocean Lodge's ecological design and organic luxe interiors overlook a dramatic section of coastline with rugged cliffs, white beaches and virtually untouched native vegetation. The lodge site adjoins two national parks and is at the heart of the island's major attractions, including Flinders Chase and the Remarkable Rocks. Resident naturalist staff provide guided coastal adventures, local touring and interpretive presentations. You can take in the wonders of KI, which explores the scenery and wildlife of Flinders Chase National Park; visit Seal Bay to see one of Australia's largest colonies of sea lions; go on a coastal walk atop limestone cliffs of Hanson Bay; observe local wildlife at sunset; discover the island's natural heritage presented by a resident naturalist. **Southern Ocean Lodge – Remarkable Suite (B,L,D)**



### Day 19: Kangaroo Island / Adelaide

This morning, enjoy another activity or simply relax. In the afternoon, you will be met and transferred to the airport for your flight back to Adelaide, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

A leisurely stroll down Adelaide's elegant tree-lined streets, through pretty parks and past stone churches unveils a different side to this quiet achiever of Australian cities. You only need to scratch the surface to find a celebration of the cultural, artistic, gastronomic and sporting facets of the city. Tantalize your taste buds with a visit to stalls at the Adelaide Central Market and sample wines from more than 60 wine regions across Australia at the National Wine Centre.



The Mayfair Hotel is Adelaide's newest five-star boutique hotel. It is right in the heart of the city in a heritage-listed, beautifully renovated building. Offering luxury accommodation, contemporary dining and premium hotel facilities, the Mayfair Hotel also showcases the very best of South Australia, including innovative food and wine and the best of locally made products and furnishings. The Hennessy Lounge rooftop retreat is available to guests residing on the executive floors and overlooks the city. **Mayfair Hotel – Suite (B)**

### Day 20: Adelaide

Today you explore the world of Australian wines with your private specialist wine guide and vehicle, who escorts you on a day of discovering the Barossa Valley wine country. You learn about the wines that have made Barossa Shiraz celebrated across the world. Start the day with a visit to Maggie Beer's Café. Maggie is a local food icon and produces an exceptional range of gourmet products. Here, you can also enjoy morning tea.



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Next, experience a private masterclass at a boutique winery. This is presented in a relaxed and informative environment. You enjoy a platter of regional morsels to accompany and enhance these superb wines, which show the regional styles of the Barossa Valley.

Savor a delightful leisurely two-course lunch accompanied by local wines before you enjoy a tutored tasting of Penfold's super premium wines. These may include Bin 707, Yattarna, and the iconic Penfolds Grange. At the end of the day, stop at Mengler's Hill to take in the views of the Barossa Valley you experienced during the day before returning to your accommodation in late afternoon.

**Mayfair Hotel –Suite (B,L)**



### **Day 21: Adelaide / Hobart / Lake St Clair**

This morning, you will be met at your accommodation by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to the airport to meet your onward flight to Hobart (internal airfare additional). Upon arrival at Hobart Airport, you will be met by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to your accommodation.

Lake St Clair was known by the Aboriginal inhabitants as 'Leeawuleena' meaning "sleeping water", an apt name for the tranquil nature of the entire lake and surroundings. It is the deepest in Australia (190 meters / 623 feet), having been scooped out by glaciers 10,000 years ago during the Ice Age. High, sheer dolerite cliffs rise from the water and there is a drowned moraine at the southern end. The lake is surrounded by forest and is the southern gateway to the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. There is a camp ground at the southern end of the lake near the award-winning visitor center that features descriptions of the area, including the geological history, wildlife and vegetation.



The lake's deep waters reflect a range of colors during the course of the day, and in different weather conditions, from deep purple to shimmering green and sky blue. Lake St Clair is located at the southern end of the Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National

Park. It marks the end of the famous trekking route the *Overland Track*.

The Pumphouse is unmissable Lake St Clair accommodation – two industrial buildings gently transformed as an intimate retreat in the heart of this UNESCO World Heritage wilderness. A place to side-step daily life and connect with others in some of the most spectacular landscapes on the planet. This intimate property offers just 18 rooms in the Pumphouse out on the lake and also in the Shorehouse building on the water's edge. Explore the national park by foot, bike and boat, and fish for trout in the shallows then return to Pumphouse at day's end to relax by the log fire. **St. Clair Hotel – Pumphouse Top Floor room (B)**

### **Day 22: Lake St Clair**

Today enjoy a bushwalking tour for a close interaction with the wildlife such as pademelons (one of the smallest marsupials), Bennetts wallabies and an array of creatures to delight and add to this exceptional experience. **St. Clair Hotel – Pumphouse Top Floor room (B)**





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### **Day 23: Lake St Clair / Freycinet Peninsula**

Today you will be transferred to the Freycinet Peninsula on Tasmania's beautiful east coast. It is characterized by sheltered white sand beaches, dramatic wilderness and breathtaking vistas of Wineglass Bay. Towering walls of pink and grey granite, patched in orange lichen, soar dramatically out of the water, while timid wildlife and beautiful orchids grace the lush green forests of this national park.

Saffire Freycinet is Australia's new luxury coastal sanctuary on Tasmania's East Coast, delivering sophisticated and intimate style and an inspirational experience. Overlooking the Hazards Mountains, Freycinet Peninsula and the pristine waters of Great Oyster Bay, Saffire blends man-made elegance with nature's breathtaking beauty. Featuring just 20 luxurious suites, exclusive day spa, restaurant, guest lounge and bar, this lodge is a combination of stellar service, local culinary delights, ancient landscapes, abundant wildlife and personal well-being.



In Palate Restaurant, head chef, Hugh Whitehouse, has ensured innovative dining does not compromise the true flavors of the freshest local produce. From breakfast through to dinner, guests can customize their dining experiences to suit all tastes and schedules. **Saffire Freycinet – King Private Pavilion (B,L,D)**

### **Days 24/25: Freycinet Peninsula**

During your stay at Saffire Freycinet touring options specified below are available, but do not always operate daily and the resort will confirm your program on arrival. Saffire Freycinet offers a variety of included experiences including: a guided tour of a marine oyster farm; a walk of Wineglass Lookout; the Tasmanian Devil experience; Pelican Bay canoeing and bird-watching; wine and vineyard programs; cooking demonstration with the chef; kite flying; archery; mountain biking; kayaking; golfing, star gazing and fishing off the shoreline in front of Saffire. The resort also has optional experiences such as an exclusive guest experience of Schouten Island, one of the deserted islands, with wild bushland and secluded beaches to explore. Enjoy close-up interactions with soaring sea birds, playful marine mammals and a diversity of life on your way to Schouten Island aboard the purpose-built vessel, Saffire. The adventure also includes a visit to culturally significant sites of past and present inhabitants, including the Australian fur seal. **Saffire Freycinet – King Private Pavilion (B,L,D)**

### **Day 26: Freycinet Peninsula / Sydney / Pretty Beach House**

This morning you will be met by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to the airport for your flight to Sydney (airfare additional). Upon arrival at Sydney Airport, you will be met by your private driver and vehicle and escorted to your accommodation in a serene bushland setting with secluded beaches within easy walking distance.

On the Central Coast near Gosford, just 90 minutes north of Sydney, the beautiful Bouddi National Park offers spectacular landscapes from beaches and steep cliffs to rainforest and heathland. The park is home to natural attractions such as one of Australia's first marine protected areas, unique animals and significant Aboriginal sites.

You are welcomed as if in a private home, where all meals and drinks are included as part of the hospitality.



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The heart of the property is the Main House which features atrium-style dining, a lounge and cocktail bar, and open fireplace plus infinity pool and deck.

The pavilions boast king bedrooms with separate dressing rooms, open-plan sitting areas, fully stocked bars, private decks with day beds and some with log fireplaces and heated plunge pools. Pretty Beach House offers a complete gastronomic experience, with food prepared by celebrated chef Stefano Manfredi available all day. You have options to dine in the atrium dining room, privately within your own pavilion, in the wine cellar, or al fresco amongst the ancient angophoras and native eucalypts that surround the property. An extensive range of premium wines and spirits compliment the gastronomic experience. **Pretty Beach House – One King Retreat (B,L,D)**

#### Day 27: Pretty Beach House

Today you can enjoy a day of relaxation or select from the activities available than include mountain biking, bush walks, lunch or dinner at sister property Bells at Killcare, with private transfers and tour of kitchen gardens, and an indigenous didgeridoo smoking ceremony that includes canapés and cocktails. There are also a variety of optional activities (additional cost) available that include: luxury “picnic” cruise to secret coves and bays; fishing charters; guided cultural tour hosted by a traditional Aboriginal elder; guided bush walks; private cooking classes; gourmet wine-tasting outing in the Hunter Valley Region; kayak and paddle boarding; horse riding; quad biking; golfing; spa treatments; and more. *Please note that some of the optional activities listed on your itinerary, including spa treatments, require a minimum 24 hours advance notice.* **Pretty Beach House – One King Retreat (B,L,D)**



#### Day 28: Pretty Beach House / Sydney

Enjoy a morning at leisure. In the afternoon, you will be transferred back to Sydney. Sunny and stylish, energetic and inviting, Sydney shines all year round. Ferries, yachts, jet boats and harbor cruises share the sparkling waters framed by the world famous white sails of the Opera House and coat hanger-like Harbor Bridge. The colonial sandstone warehouses of the lively Rocks district nestle at the foot of tall glass towers and contrast with the modernity of the neighboring Darling Harbor.

Capturing all of Sydney’s most celebrated icons from the Harbor Bridge to the Opera House, your hotel is close to the historic Rocks District of Sydney and only a few minutes’ walk to the harbor and major shopping, dining



and city attractions. The hotel features impressive views of the harbor, Sydney Opera House and Sydney Harbor Bridge. Savor exquisite cuisine at Pei Restaurant, enjoy a leisurely drink at The Grain artisan bar. Other facilities include a fitness center, outdoor hotel pool and Spa.

This evening enjoy a performance (seasonal) at the Sydney Opera House, a cultural and architectural masterpiece as well as one of the world's most celebrated performing arts companies. Begin the evening with a tour of the principal theatres before enjoying an intimate pre-theatre dinner in Aria Restaurant. Following dinner, you see a performance in the famous Opera Theatre, Concert Hall, Drama Theatre





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or Playhouse that completes your evening. After the show, you find your own way back to your hotel. **Four Seasons Hotel – Full Harbor View Jr. Suite (B,D)**

### Day 29: Sydney

Today make your way independently to Campbell's Cove, a small bay on the eastern shore of Sydney Cove, and step aboard your 54-foot motor yacht for a four-hour small group harbor experience. Treat yourself to one of Sydney's most sensational lunch cruises, visiting the harbor and its outstanding attractions. Take in the sights and delights with a small group of like-minded individuals while navigating the waterways of Sydney. Cruise back in time and explore the rich history of Sydney Harbor and its foreshore. Immerse yourself in all the activities that a private vessel offers including swimming, fishing and kayaking – or sit back, relax on the expansive sunbed and do nothing at all. Your informative captain and crew will entertain you throughout your four-hour lunch cruise as you enjoy a three-course BBQ lunch served with beer, wine and soft drinks. Your cruise will conclude at the Campbell's Cove Pontoon in midafternoon. **Four Seasons Hotel – Full Harbor View Jr. Suite (B,L)**



### Day 30: Sydney

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private car and driver and transferred to Rose Bay where you will board a sea plane for a spectacular scenic flight with Sydney Harbor Seaplanes. Departing Sydney Harbor late morning your seaplane flight tracks north past Sydney's spectacular northern beaches before touching down in the expansive waterway of Pittwater. A courtesy vehicle from Jonah's Whale Beach will meet you at the dock and transfer you the short distance to Jonah's restaurant. This is one of Australia's most stunning ocean retreats and the only Relais & Chateaux hotel in Sydney. You will savor a leisurely three-course lunch. Perched high on the edge of a cliff, enjoying dramatic views of Whale Beach and the sprawling Pacific Ocean, Jonah's guest list has included Laurence Olivier, Anthony Hopkins, Mick Jagger and Jerry Hall.



Bay, you will be met by your private car/water taxi and transferred to your accommodation. **Four Seasons Hotel – Full Harbor View Jr. Suite (B,L)**

### Day 31: Sydney

This morning, you will be met at your accommodation by your guide and vehicle for a full day private tour of the Blue Mountains. This fantastic eco tour begins at the historical Rocks area of old Sydney. The birth place



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of Australia has a fascinating past and you will see convict-built cottages, Australia's first church and remnants of how Australia was shaped as a nation. Continuing west, your first stop is at Featherdale Wildlife Park, home to Australia's favorite marsupials, where you will get up close to kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, wombats and many other unique Australian animals and birds.

Then, head to the Blue Mountains National Park and to a little known hidden clearing to unlock a piece of Australia you would never have known existed. In a secluded valley, where kangaroos may graze in the wild, enjoy morning tea. Next visit some scenic lookouts over the Blue Mountains, including Kings Tableland; this breathtaking view looks out over the Jamison Valley. You will see firsthand the ruggedness and beauty that the Blue Mountains are famous for.



Lunch today is at a local café in the heart of the Blue Mountains. After lunch head to Wentworth Falls. Here you will be guided down a well-worn path towards the falls and stunning views. Experience the local flora and fauna up close as your guide informs you of the incredible geology of the Blue Mountains and how they were formed.



Skirt around cliff and drive towards the township of Katoomba. At Eagle Hawk Lookout you will see the famous Three Sisters rock formation and marvel at the stunning views of the Jamison Valley. From here continue around Narrow Neck Plateau for more incredible vantage points. Sit back and relax on board your comfortable vehicle for the drive back through Sydney's western suburbs and across ANZAC Bridge. Upon completion of your tour you will be transferred to your accommodation in late afternoon. **Four Seasons Hotel – Full Harbor View Jr. Suite (B,L)**

### **Day 32: Sydney / Depart**

This morning, you will be met at your accommodation by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to the airport to meet your onward flight. **(B)**

*End of Big Five Services*





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## Included In The Tour Cost:

- Hotel and lodge accommodations as proposed, including taxes and fees
- Meals as indicated (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)
- Services of an English speaking guide during all included excursions on a shared basis
- All transfers in an air conditioned vehicle
- Entrances at parks, sites, and monuments
- Comprehensive assortment of pre-tour materials and amenities
- Big Five's 24-hour White Glove Service® guest assistance
- Complimentary one-year membership to One More Generation, including adoption of an endangered species

## Not Included In The Tour Cost:

Any airfares unless specified under inclusions. Any airport taxes (All taxes are government imposed and subject to change without notice). Passport and visa fees. Travel insurance. Excess baggage or shipping charges. Items of personal nature such as gratuities, telephone / fax / internet charges, laundry, beverages, meals and services not specified in the itinerary.

**Notes:** An Electronic Travel Authorization is needed to enter Australia and needs to be applied on line.

## Per Diem

*Price starts from US\$1,800 per person per day.*



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## Big Five Edge

- **900 + Hours:** You are working with one of the most experienced groups of individuals in our industry. Big Five Destination Specialists receive *900+ hours of on-site and in-office on product training annually*, and are part of a diverse team assembled from 11 countries over 5 continents speaking a combined 10 different languages. With an average of 20 years' experience in the travel industry, our Destination Specialists answer 8 out of 10 questions immediately based on their personal experiences.
- **24 Hours a Day:** Every guest receives complimentary enrollment in our **24-hour White Glove Service® guest assistance** program. A team of specialists using proprietary software to track your progress is available 365 days from anywhere in the world. WGS® starts two weeks before your departure to help with anything from concierge services to travel emergencies. We proactively call every guest from North America to check in and assist with requests such as checking local weather; dealing with lost luggage or cancelled flights; or even the rare medical emergency. In the last 18 months, we have proactively reached out by telephone to our guests on tour to welcome them or assist with a specific requests almost 1,500 times... and counting.
- **Ahead of the Crowds:** Our Destination Specialists combine creativity with their impressive knowledge. As a result, we are on average two years or more ahead of the pack when it comes to *new and innovative travel ideas*. We focus on lesser known unique touring activities and emerging concepts that are not yet mainstream. We forge paths and take risks few others are willing to because we are committed to the principles of authenticity and sustainability. Most tour companies rely on an in-country counterpart for product ideas. At Big Five, we don't wait for anyone else. In 30 of our 44 destinations, and counting, we pioneered the itineraries and activities that are well ahead of current trends, and have taught our ground team, who actually live in those countries. We invest in our team, constantly sending them out to find new experiences that most overseas companies are unaware of because they rarely leave their home territories.
- **Booking in North America vs Booking Overseas:** Before you work directly with a company overseas, look closely to insure you are comparing apples, and not grapes to kumquats. What appears to be a \$1,000 price difference, actually is almost at par when you add in all the "extra fees" overseas companies put in their fine print. We don't charge merchant fees for using a credit card, most overseas companies will charge you 3% or more to pay by credit card. Your Big Five journey comes with complimentary enrollment in our 24-hour White Glove Service® guest assistance program up to 2 weeks before your departure; something no overseas company has the ability or capacity to do. We usually have more inclusions with fewer "optional" activities. You are backed by a comprehensive liability coverage plan that was written and is operated in North America. Booking overseas leaves you in the hands of the liability coverage that is written and operated in the country you are visiting, following local rules and guidelines, which may not be known to you. Make sure your apples are really apples – *otherwise it might cost you more than just money*.
- **Sustainability:** We believe in a sustainable future for all. Big Five has been consistently recognized as *a leader in the sustainable travel*, receiving accolades for our work to help change the world through travel. Big Five has also been honored by an internationally recognized travel network as the only company to twice receive an award for *Sustainable Leadership* after being judged against nearly 100 other companies by two separate independent panels.