



Highlights of Australia & New Zealand with Ana Torres. Sponsored by Youngstown Rotary Club

15 days | 18 days with Fiji extension | Oct 19 2024—Nov 02 2024

Journey from the Land Down Under to the Land of the Long White Cloud, taking in breathtaking natural wonders and iconic architecture as you go. From Australia's vast Great Barrier Reef to New Zealand's majestic peaks and sparkling lakes, there's so much to marvel at in this far-away part of the world.



Your tour package includes

- 12 nights in handpicked hotels
- 12 breakfasts
- 1 lunch
- 4 dinners with beer or wine
- 7 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 4 on-tour flights

Included highlights

- Carlton Gardens
- Great Barrier Reef
- Sydney Opera House
- Gondola Ride up Bob's Peak
- Fiordland National Park
- Māori Cultural Show

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.

For more information, contact

grouptoursite.com/tours/highlights-of-australia-new-zealand-with-ana-torres-sponsored-by-youngstown-rotary-club | 330-207-9127 | amb723@yahoo.com

Highlights of Australia & New Zealand with Ana Torres.

Sponsored by Youngstown Rotary Club

15 days | 18 days with Fiji extension

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.

Melbourne → 2 nights

Day 3: Arrival in Melbourne

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Australia! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner this evening.

Day 4: 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
- Stroll through Queen Victoria Market

Enjoy a free afternoon in Melbourne or add an excursion.

+ Phillip Island Penguin Parade

Great Barrier Reef Region → 2 nights

Day 5: Flight to Cairns

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Fly to Cairns, a coastal city in the state of Queensland, and enjoy dinner there this evening. Then, transfer to your hotel in the Great Barrier Reef region.

Day 6: 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 sail out to Michaelmas Cay
- Enjoy a cup of tea as you learn about the reef’s unique ecosystem from a marine biologist
- Dock at Michaelmas Cay and view the coral’s colors from the glass-bottom boat or head to the beach to hop in the water with a snorkel
- Sit down for an included tropical buffet lunch aboard the boat
- Sip on a glass of sparkling wine and some tea as you make your way back to Cairns

Please note: Snorkeling equipment is provided.

Sydney → 3 nights

Day 7: Flight to Sydney

Included meals: breakfast

Fly to Sydney this morning. Then, enjoy free time to explore the city or add an excursion.

+ Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise

Day 8: 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
- Enter the National Opal Collection
- Step inside the UNESCO-listed Sydney Opera House with a local guide

Day 9: Free day in Sydney

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Enjoy a free day in Sydney or add an excursion. Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

+ Taronga Conservation Society & Wildlife Visit

Queenstown → 3 nights

Day 10: Flight to Queenstown & Bob’s Peak visit

Included meals: breakfast

Fly to Queenstown, New Zealand, this morning. Upon arrival, enjoy a free afternoon to get acquainted with the city.

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 sunset as you admire the Remarkables, Walter Peak, and Lake Wakatipu in the distance.

Please note: On departures from April-July 2023 travelers will visit the Queenstown Kiwi Park instead of Bob’s Peak due to gondola renovations.

Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Queenstown

Included meals: breakfast

Spend the day getting to know the Queenstown area with your Tour Director as you explore the gold rush settlement of Arrowtown.

Then, enjoy free time in Queenstown or add an excursion.

+ Walter Peak: Lake Cruise & Lunch

+ Walter Peak: Lake Cruise & Dinner

Day 12: Milford Sound

Included meals: breakfast

Depart early this morning to see the breathtaking scenery of New Zealand’s Fiordland National Park.

- Travel through the Five Rivers farming region and past Lake Te Anau, the largest lake on the South Island
 - 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
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Auckland → 2 nights

Day 13: Flight to Auckland

Included meals: breakfast

Fly to Auckland this morning. Then, get to know “The City of Sails” with your Tour Director in the lead.

For more information, contact

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- 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

Spend a free evening in Auckland or add an excursion.

+ Auckland Sky Tower & Dinner

Day 14: Free day in Auckland

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Enjoy a free day in Auckland or add an excursion.

Later, celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner.

+ Waiheke Island

Flight Home

Day 15: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

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

+ 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.

Fiji → 3 nights

Day 15: Flight to Fiji

Included meals: breakfast

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

Day 16: Free day in Fiji

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a free day in Fiji or add an excursion.

+ Tivua Island Sailing & Snorkeling

Day 17: 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

Flight Home

Day 18: 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: grouptoursite.com/tours/highlights-of-australia-new-zealand-with-ana-torres-sponsored-by-youngstown-rotary-club | 330-207-9127

Day 4: Phillip Island Penguin Parade

\$159/\$169* (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.

Day 7: Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise

\$149/\$159* (2.5 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

Take a dinner cruise through Sydney Harbour, basking 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 9: Taronga Conservation Society & Wildlife Visit

\$95/\$105* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

Make your way to the Taronga Zoo in Sydney and take a ride on the Taronga Sky Safari—the city's only cable car. Snap photos of the breathtaking views of Sydney Harbour, see the zoo's Asian Elephant herd from above, and keep an eye out for squirrel monkeys leaping around their home. 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 11: Walter Peak: Lake Cruise & Lunch

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

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 lunch along with beer or wine. Then, watch a sheep-shearing demonstration and sheep dog show before heading back to Queenstown on a return cruise. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs May through September. In June and July, the TSS Earnslaw undergoes routine maintenance and is replaced by a launch boat for the cruise. A weatherproof jacket and comfortable shoes are recommended.

Day 11: Walter Peak: Lake Cruise & Dinner

\$129/\$139* (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: A weatherproof jacket and comfortable shoes are recommended.

Day 13: Auckland Sky Tower & Dinner

\$95/\$105* (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

The Auckland Sky Tower stands over 1,000 feet tall and is the city's most recognizable landmark. On this evenings excursion, you'll head to the indoor observation deck where incredible views of Auckland await. You'll see everything from the iconic Auckland Harbour Bridge, to nearby Rangitoto Island and Mount Wellington. Then, make your way up to the 52nd floor to enjoy dinner at the Orbit restaurant. This unique restaurant offers panoramic views of New Zealand's capital city and rotates 360 degrees once every hour. Dinner with a view has never rung more true.

Day 14: Waiheke Island

\$135/\$145* (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 16: Tivua Island Sailing & Snorkeling

\$139/\$149* (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 for guided 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 17: Fiji Village Visit: Indigenous Culture & Traditions

\$95/\$105* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

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 to collect, husk, and extract milk from coconuts during a hands-on demonstration. Finish your day with a farewell drink before you return to your hotel.

*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.com/terms