EXPLORING AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
March 9-30, 2020

22 days for $9,784 total price from Houston
($9,395 air & land inclusive plus $389 airline taxes and fees)

This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure's World's Best Tour Operators award.

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for Aggies & Friends of Texas A&M University
Howdy, Ags!

Join fellow Aggies on an exclusive 22-day tour to Australia and New Zealand that takes your small group through a fascinating array of landscapes and urban environments, giving you ample opportunity to experience the natural splendor and rich cultural heritage of the Lands Down Under.

Your journey begins in Cairns with an excursion to the Great Barrier Reef. Traveling on to Alice Springs, embark on an Aboriginal “dreamtime” tour and visit fabled Ayers Rock. You’ll enjoy a three-night stay in cosmopolitan Sydney; tour English-accented Christchurch, New Zealand; and spend two nights in New Zealand’s remarkable Mt. Cook National Park. After these explorations, cruise stunning Milford Sound and discover New Zealand’s “adventure capital,” Queenstown. Experience Maori culture in geothermal Rotorua before concluding your tour in vibrant Auckland. If you wish to spend more time in the “City of Sails,” an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension is available.

With room for only 24 guests on this exclusive Traveling Aggies departure, we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today to secure your spot!

Gig ‘em!

Jennifer Bohac ’87, Ph.D.  
Director of Travel – Outreach and Engagement  
The Association of Former Students

Marisa Liles  
Director of Travel – Operations and Customer Service  
The Association of Former Students

TRAVELING AGGIES RESERVATION FORM: EXPLORING AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $_____($500 per person) for ____ person(s) on Exploring Australia & New Zealand departing March 9, 2020.  

I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: The Association of Former Students, 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840-2918. Or you may call the Traveling Aggies at 979-845-7514 or toll-free at 800-633-7514, or fax your reservation form to 979-845-9263. You may also call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765, or fax your reservation to 617-454-9199.

Full Passport Name ___________________________ Date of Birth ______________ Gender _________

Badge Name ___________________________ Class Year ______________

Full Passport Name ___________________________ Date of Birth ______________ Gender _________

Badge Name ___________________________ Class Year ______________

Address ___________________________ E-mail(s) ___________________________

City ___________________________ State ______________ ZIP ___________

Home Phone (______) ______________________ Cell Phone (______)____________________

Please book my/our air from _______________________ I/We request an air upgrade to _____________________

I will share a room with ________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) □

Post-Tour “Auckland – On Your Own” Extension: Please sign me/us up □

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Exploring Australia & New Zealand, March 9-30, 2020, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) __________________________________________________________________________ Date __________

Method of Payment □ Check □ American Express □ Discover □ MasterCard □ VISA

Account # ___________________________ Security Code _________ Exp. Date ___________

Name of Cardholder ___________________________ 

Signature _____________________________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.
Exploring Australia & New Zealand

22 days for $9,784 total price from Houston
($9,395 air & land inclusive plus $389 airline taxes and fees)

Small group touring and the Lands Down Under – they add up to a perfect combination as we travel from Australia’s spectacular Great Barrier Reef and the storied Outback to sophisticated Sydney; from New Zealand’s towering Mt. Cook and breathtaking Milford Sound to high-spirited Queenstown and nautical Auckland.

Cover photo: Serene Milford Sound ranks as New Zealand’s most popular destination.

Days 1 & 2: Depart U.S. for Cairns, Australia

Day 3: Arrive Cairns This afternoon we arrive in Cairns, gateway to Australia’s Far North and the Great Barrier Reef. We transfer to our hotel where tonight we enjoy a briefing and dinner. D

Day 4: Cairns/Kuranda We take an orientation tour of Cairns then board a historic railway to the mountain village of Kuranda. After time to explore here, we descend via the gondolas of Skyrail. We return to our hotel and the remainder of the day is at leisure to explore Cairns independently. B

Day 5: Great Barrier Reef This morning we board a boat for a day-long excursion to the Great Barrier Reef, at 1,200 miles long the world’s largest living organism and richest marine resource. We pull up at Michaelmas Cay where we can swim, snorkel, or view the reef from a semi-submersible vessel. B,L

Day 6: Cairns/Alice Springs We take a morning flight to Alice Springs, where we see the Anzac Hill Monument to Australian and New Zealand soldiers, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and School of the Air, which provides schooling to widely scattered Outback children. Tonight we enjoy a traditional dinner in the “bush.” B,D

Day 7: Alice Springs This morning we embark on an Aboriginal “dreamtime” tour, to meet Walpiri tribespeople and learn about their ancient culture. Then we visit Simpsons Gap and Standley Chasm, where we enjoy a picnic lunch and see the sheer rock walls aglow in reflected sunlight. B,L

Day 8: Alice Springs/Ayers Rock We reach our Ayers Rock hotel early afternoon. After lunch on our own, we visit Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site that is the traditional land of the Anangu Aboriginal peoples and home to the Olgas rock formations and Uluru (Ayers Rock). We watch the sun set over this fabled sandstone monolith that rises to a height of 1,114 feet. B,D

Small Group Tour Highlights
Ride aboard vintage Kuranda steam train and Skyrail gondolas • Great Barrier Reef excursion • Aboriginal “dreamtime” experience • Sunset at Ayers Rock • Sydney touring and Harbour cruise • Leisure time in Sydney • Christchurch touring • Two-night stay at Mt. Cook National Park • Milford Sound cruise • Geothermal Rotorua • Maori cultural experience • Auckland touring

Day Itinerary Hotel Rating
1-2 Depart U.S. for Cairns
3-5 Cairns Pullman Reef Casino Deluxe
6-7 Alice Springs DoubleTree by Hilton Sup. First Class
8 Ayers Rock Sails in the Desert Sup. First Class
9-11 Sydney Sir Stamford Deluxe
12 Christchurch Rydges Latimer Christchurch Sup. First Class
13-14 Mt. Cook Hermitage Hotel First Class
15-17 Queenstown Hotel St. Moritz First Class
18-19 Rotorua Regent of Rotorua First Class
20-21 Auckland Grand Millennium Auckland Sup. First Class
22 Depart Auckland for U.S.

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.
Day 9: Ayers Rock/Sydney  This morning we visit the base of Uluru and the interesting museum here. Mid-day we fly to Sydney, arriving late afternoon.  B,D

Day 10: Sydney  Today's tour features The Rocks historic neighborhood, Darling Harbour and Mrs. Macquarie's Point, Rose and Watson's bays, and popular Bondi Beach. Then we board a catamaran for a lunch cruise around Sydney Harbour.  B,L

Day 11: Sydney  This morning we tour Featherdale Wildlife Park, where wombats, dingos, and koalas reside. Then the afternoon is at leisure; tonight we enjoy dinner together at a local restaurant.  B,D

Day 12: Sydney/Christchurch, New Zealand  After a late morning tour of the iconic Sydney Opera House, this afternoon is free for independent exploration. We board a flight this evening to Christchurch, New Zealand’s “Garden City.”  B

Day 13: Christchurch/Mt. Cook National Park  This morning’s orientation tour features the acclaimed Botanic Gardens and Cathedral Square, the beating heart of Christchurch and site of Christchurch Cathedral. Then we board our motorcoach for the journey south to Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park, in the Southern Alps. We dine tonight at our hotel.  B,D

Day 14: Mount Cook  This morning’s tour of alpine Mount Cook Village includes a visit to the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Center, where we see a 3D planetarium movie about the region. We also visit the Hillary Gallery, commemorating Sir Edmund's achievements, including the first ascent of Mount Cook's difficult South Ridge in 1948 (at 12,316 feet, Mount Cook is New Zealand's tallest mountain). After time in the village for lunch on our own, this afternoon is at leisure to relax amid the breathtaking scenery, hike, or take an optional scenic flight (weather permitting).  B,D

Day 15: Mount Cook/Queenstown  We depart this morning for Queenstown, stopping en route in historic Arrowtown for lunch on our own and then at Kawarau Bridge Bungy, the world’s first bungy jump operation open to the public. Mid-afternoon we reach Queenstown, New Zealand’s “adventure capital.” We dine tonight at our hotel.  B,D

Day 16: Milford Sound  Our day-long excursion to Milford Sound includes a nature cruise through the breathtaking fjords. We have lunch on board then later have the opportunity to return to Queenstown on an optional scenic flight (weather permitting).  B,L

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**Post-Tour Extension**

March 30-April 1, 2020  
**AUCKLAND – ON YOUR OWN**

3 days/2 nights  
for $325 total price  
Single Supplement: $245

Enjoy additional time in the sparkling “City of Sails,” at your own pace.

**Your Tour Price Includes**

- 2 nights’ accommodations at Grand Millennium Auckland (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport
Day 17: Queenstown  We board the *Spirit of Queenstown* this morning for a scenic cruise to Mt. Nicholas High Country Farm. At this working ranch, we watch a sheepdog demonstration and learn about the wool industry then explore on foot and on a four-wheel drive excursion into the breathtaking high country.  

Day 18: Queenstown/Rotorua  We depart today for the Maori center of Rotorua, with its geysers, bubbling mud pools, and hot thermal springs. Upon arrival, we take a panoramic tour of this city on the shores of Lake Rotorua. This evening we visit *Te Puia* Thermal Reserve and Cultural Centre for a traditional *hangi* dinner and Maori performance.  

Day 19: Rotorua  This morning we visit Rainbow Springs Nature Park, a showcase of native flora, fauna, and birdlife, and where we tour the National Kiwi Trust, which rehabilitates injured kiwis, the national bird.  

Day 20: Rotorua/Auckland  En route to Auckland, we stop at Ruakuri Caves to see the unique glowworms that illuminate the underground grottoes and caves. We reach Auckland late this afternoon; we’re on our own for dinner tonight.  

Day 21: Auckland  Our half-day tour of this city set atop 48 volcanic hills features glittering Auckland Harbour and the America’s Cup Village. We also visit the War Memorial Museum, with its prized Maori and Pacific Islander collections. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner at our hotel.  

Day 22: Depart for U.S.  Very early this morning we depart for the airport for the flight to Los Angeles (via Sydney) and our return flights home.  

**Your Tour Price Includes**

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 19 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and First Class hotels
- 33 meals: 19 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

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**Tour Departs: March 9, 2020**

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**Land Only (transfers not included)**  

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<td>Washington, DC</td>
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Please call if your city is not listed. Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees. Los Angeles $9,484. Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of $389, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking on stairs and uneven surfaces. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

For more information and reservations, please call the Traveling Aggies at 979-845-7514, or toll-free at 800-633-7514, or call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765 Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time.
We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you...