



PRESENTS

# EXPLORING AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

October 18-November 8, 2017

23 days for \$8,957\* total price from Houston  
(\$7,895\* air & land inclusive plus \$1,062\* airline taxes and fees)

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



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

### ITINERARY IN BRIEF

**Days 1-5: October 18-22, 2017**  
Depart U.S./Cairns

- Depart the U.S. for Cairns, Australia. Explore Cairns with an orientation tour, with a historic railway ride through the mountain village of Kuranda, descending via the gondolas of Skyrail. Spend a day at the Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest living organism.

**Days 6-12: October 23-29, 2017**  
Alice Springs/Ayers Rock/Sydney

- Fly to Alice Springs in the heart of Australia. Embark on an Aboriginal "dreamtime" tour to meet Walpiri tribespeople and learn about their ancient culture. Visit Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to the Olgas rock formations and Uluru (Ayers Rock). In Sydney, board a catamaran for a lunch cruise around Sydney Harbor. Tour the Royal Botanic Gardens, Darling Harbor, Bondi beach, and the Koala Sanctuary Park, plus enjoy free time on your own to explore Sydney as you wish.

**Days 13-18: Oct. 30-Nov. 3, 2017**  
Christchurch/Mount Cook National Park/ Queenstown/ Milford Sound

- Take a late morning tour of the iconic Sydney Opera House. Fly to Christchurch, New Zealand and tour this English accented city. Tour the alpine Mount Cook Village and spend time in Queenstown, New Zealand's "adventure capital." Watch a sheep shearing demonstration and see the sheep dogs in action at a local farm. Embark on a day-long excursion to Milford Sound including a nature cruise.

**Days 19-22: November 4-7, 2017**  
Queenstown/Milford Sound/ Rotorua/Auckland

- In Rotorua, tour the new Rotorua Museum. Visit Te Puia Thermal Reserve and Maori Cultural Center in geo-thermal Rotorua. Stop at Ruakuri Caves to see the unique glowworms illuminate underground grottoes. In Auckland, the "City of Sails," take a city tour featuring the War Memorial Museum, Auckland Harbor, and the America's Cup Village.

**Day 23: November 8, 2017**  
Depart Auckland/U.S.

- Depart Auckland, New Zealand for the U.S.

## Exploring Australia & New Zealand, *Continued...*

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** At this time, elements of the tour are still being finalized. Your deposit will be fully refundable until all details, including pricing, are complete. Our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, will be in touch with you in February 2017 when the final tour details and tour brochure is available. At that time, you will have 2 weeks to decide whether you would like to convert your preliminary registration to a confirmed booking or to cancel and receive a full refund. Once confirmed, the cancellation penalties as outlined in the brochure will apply. You will then receive a confirmation packet plus information regarding the purchase of optional trip insurance and travel protection.

### **\*Probable Pricing:**

\$8,957\* total price from Houston. Please call for prices from other cities. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$1,062\*, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Land Only price is \$7,395\*; arrival and departure transfers not included. Single travelers please add \$1,995\*. A 3-day/2-night post-tour extension in Auckland is available for \$265\* (single supplement is \$165\*). Business Class and Premium Economy upgrades on international flights are available on a request basis – please call for details.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All dates, prices, and itinerary details for 2017 tours are subject to change. You will be contacted with these details in February 2017.

### **Your Tour Price Includes:**

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities.; all flights within itinerary
- 20 nights' accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and First Class hotels
- 34 meals: 20 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing and entrance fees for all included features
- Services of local Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout the trip
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
- Luggage handling for one bag per person

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### **PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

**SEND TO:** Rice Alumni Traveling Owls – MS 520  
Rice University  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, TX 77251-1892  
Local: (713) 34-TRIPS    FAX: (713) 348-5210

Our Tour Operator for this program is:  
**Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**

E-mail: [travelingowls@rice.edu](mailto:travelingowls@rice.edu)

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ person/people. This secures our space on the following tour: **Exploring Australia & New Zealand, October 18-November 8, 2017**. Please charge my deposit to:

AMEX                       VISA                       MasterCard                       Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I will be contacted in February 2017, once the final brochure for the tour is available, and will be given the opportunity to cancel at that time, without penalty. I also understand that billing and a complete confirmation packet, including information about optional trip insurance and travel protection, will follow once I convert this preliminary registration into a confirmed booking.

Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_ Class Yr. \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_ Class Yr. \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Presented by the Association of Rice Alumni*