

TRI-STATE TRAVEL

PRESENTS

NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA ADVENTURE

FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 12, 2026



Experience the countries down under like nothing you have ever done before! Hold a Koala Bear, enjoy a Home Stay with a farm family, float through the world-renowned Waitomo Glow Worm Caves, submerge yourself in the Great Barrier Reef and cruise the spectacular Milord Sound. Join us when we travel to this incredible land by train, gondola, boat, bus and air. The Adventure Begins!!

**Guaranteed Departure Points:
Galena, Freeport, Rockford or Moline, IL**

Day 1 -Monday - February 23, 2026 - Welcome Aboard!

Our New Zealand/Australia tour begins with a transfer to Chicago O'Hare this afternoon for our overnight flight to New Zealand. Due to crossing the International Date Line to New Zealand we will lose **a day in our travels of February 24, 2026**, which may sound confusing however we do gain it back upon our return to the United States!

Day 2 – Wednesday -February 25, 2026 - Welcome to New Zealand – Auckland City Tour

Upon Arrival in New Zealand, we will embark on a half day tour of the country's largest city, Auckland.

Known as **"The City of Sails"**, Auckland is situated on 53 dormant volcanic cones and between two Harbors, the sparkling Waitemata and the brooding Manukau. We'll travel through Auckland's central business district, past the Auckland University and inner-city park, known as the Domain. Then continue through the picturesque suburbs to our overnight stay in the Sky City Auckland. Dinner this evening will be at the top of our Sky City Auckland hotel. **(Dinner)**

Overnight Stay: Sky City Auckland

Day 3 –Thursday - February 26, 2026 - Auckland – Wine Tasting – Hamilton Maze Farming – Cambridge Farm-stay

This morning, we'll visit the **Vilagrad Winery** for a wine tour and tasting. Established in 1922, the Vilagrad Winery is now in its fifth generation as a family owned and operated winery, specializing in fine wines, food and entertainment. Our exquisite range of multi-award-winning wines are carefully hand harvested and hand crafted at the winery creating high quality wines that reflect the climate and soils of the region. (We suggest selecting a bottle of wine for our farm stay hosts!) After a local lunch in Hamilton, we will visit a **Waikato Maize growing farm**. Maize farming, particularly for silage, is a common practice, with dairy farmers often considering it to reduce feed costs and boost profits. We then travel to Cambridge where you will join your **Farm-stay** host. **(Breakfast, Lunch, Wine Tasting, Dinner)**

Overnight Stay: Cambridge Farm-Stay

Day 4 – Friday February 27, 2026 - Cambridge Dairy Farm – Waitomo Glowworm Caves – Rotorua Mital – Hangi Dinner

We bid farewell to our farm hosts families and visit a modern **New Zealand working dairy farm** this morning. Next, we enjoy a BBQ Lunch at the Roselands Restaurant. This afternoon we will travel to **Waitomo Glowworm Caves** where a knowledgeable guide will lead us through the limestone chambers and passages to see stunning features like the Tomo (a deep shaft that falls away to the darkness below), and the famous **'Cathedral'**. The highlight of our visit to the Glowworm Cave is a silent boat trip through the glow-worm grotto. Marvel at Mother Nature's light display as you glide quietly beneath the lights of thousands of glowworms suspended from the cave ceiling.

Next, we visit the cultural center of the North Island – **Rotorua**. Enter the world of **Mitai** and learn about the history of this area which once flourished in villages through the dynamic scenes of warriors paddling the war canoe down Wai-o-Whiro stream. The melodious sounds of instruments and entertainment are highlighted through the haka and performing arts. Enjoy a traditional buffet **Hangi Dinner** followed by an evening walk through the forest visiting the old village site and discovering the sacred natural spring Te Puna Tapu a Tuhoe. **(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)**

Overnight Stay: Rotorua – Sudima Hotel

Day 5 – Saturday - February 28, 2026 - Rotorua Sightseeing – Craft Institute – Thermal Geysers – Agro-dome

This morning, we explore Rotorua's rich history as we tour local landmarks including **New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute, Rotowhio Pa, Kiwi Conservation Centre** and the **Te Whakarewarewa Geothermal Valley** including **Pohutu Geyser**. Next, we visit the **Agrodome** featuring a Sheep Show exhibiting nineteen sheep breeds, sheepdog demonstrations and an exciting sheep auction. Following the show, experience an authentic working Farm Tour. Climb aboard the all-weather, all-terrain vehicle as we have an opportunity to see many of New Zealand's farm animals including Romney sheep, different cattle breeds, deer, llamas, ostrich, pigs and alpaca! You'll also explore the fruit orchard and olive grove and have the chance to taste natural kiwifruit juice and delicious, sweet honey. The balance of our day is free to explore the area. **(Breakfast)**

Overnight Stay: Rotorua – Sudima Hotel

Day 6 – Sunday - March 1, 2026 - Welcome to New Zealand's South Island - City Highlights – Canterbury Plains

After breakfast we transfer to the Rotorua airport for our flight to the **South Island of New Zealand**. Upon arrival in **Christchurch**, we enjoy a tour that covers the **central city highlights** including Mona Vale Gardens, Hagley Park, Riccarton House, Riccarton Bush, and the University of Canterbury. We then continue to the Sign of the Takahe, an historic building providing spectacular views over the city, **Canterbury Plains** and to the Southern Alps. Dinner will be at our hotel tonight. **(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)**

Overnight Stay: Christchurch: Rydges Latimer Christchurch

Day 7 –Monday - March 2, 2026 - TranzAlpine Railroad - Alps – Canterbury Plains - Franz Josef

After breakfast we transfer to the train station to board the train to Greymouth. The **TranzAlpine** is one of the world's great scenic train trips from one coast of New Zealand to another through the dramatic contrast of dry beech forests and tussock land on one side of the Alps and lush green landscapes on the other. From Christchurch, cross the patchwork farmland of the Canterbury plains, follow the Waimakariri River, climbing into alpine scenery on a series of spectacular viaducts. Then, after stopping at **Arthur's Pass**, emerge from the long **Otira Tunnel** and descend through a subtropical rain forest past beautiful Lake Brunner and on to Greymouth. We will then continue by coach to Franz Josef and will arrive just in time for a short walk to the **Glacier Viewpoint**. **(Breakfast)**

Overnight Stay: Franz Josef – Scenic Hotel Franz Josef

Day 8 – Tuesday - March 3, 2026 - West Coast Wildlife Centre – Haast Pass - Queenstown

This morning, we visit the **West Coast Wildlife Centre**, a unique and interactive experience that brings together nature, conservation and wildlife all under one roof! Leaving Franz Josef, we cross the border of the West Coast and Otago regions by travelling through the **Haast Pass** and its native beech forest. We will see Mount Aspiring National Park as we travel along the famous route that Maori used to search for pounamu (greenstone). As we drive along the shores of Lake Hawea, Lake Wanaka and Lake Dunstan, soak up the views before arriving in Queenstown. Tonight enjoy a late dinner at the **Queenstown Gondola**. **(Breakfast & Dinner)**

Overnight Stay: Queenstown – Millennium Hotel Queenstown

Day 9 – Wednesday - March 4, 2026 - Milford Sound Day Tour

Today we enjoy a relaxing trip along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau for a short break, before continuing along the spectacular Milford Road. Upon reaching Milford Sound, we board a luxury vessel for a cruise the full-length of Milford Sound. The vessel provides excellent viewing opportunities and plenty of time is available to enjoy waterfalls, rainforest, mountains and wildlife. We return to Milford Wharf and reboard our coach for the return journey to Queenstown by road. **(Breakfast & Lunch)**

Overnight Stay: Queenstown – Millennium Hotel Queenstown

Day 10 –Thursday - March 5, 2026 Welcome to Australia – Sydney – Harbor Lunch Cruise

This morning, we transfer to the Queenstown Airport for our flight to Australia. Upon arrival in Sydney, we have a short tour of the city and see many contrasts - from the traditional Victorian architecture of the Town Hall to the modern skyscrapers of the business district. Observe the sweeping design of the Opera House and modern developments of Darling Harbor. Drive through the Botanic Garden to Lady Macquarie's Chair (for views of the harbor, Opera House and bridge). We then head out to the exclusive eastern suburbs, passing Kings Cross en route to Vaucluse and Double Bay. Continue to the Heads, the famous Bondi Beach and historic Paddington with its iron railed town house. We arrive at King Street Wharf for our Sydney Harbor lunch cruise. The balance of the afternoon and evening are free to explore this magnificent city! **(Breakfast and Lunch)**

Overnight Stay: Sydney – Novotel Sydney Central

Day 11 – Friday - March 6, 2026 - Koala Farm - Blue Mountains Tour – Scenic World

Today we visit the **Koala Farm** to learn all about Koalas and have the opportunity to take a photo with one and give it a pat. After the Koala we will head down to our Kangaroo walk-in area where we meet our Kangaroos and Wallabies to experience more great photo opportunities. From this location we will also be able to watch the Kangaroos, Wallabies and Emus in their native free-range enclosure. Take advantage of our time remaining to visit the Wombats, Australian Native birds and Farmyard Nursery. Next, we head to the **Blue Mountains Visit Scenic World Scenic Rail, Skyway & Cableway**. Visit the **Katoomba Waterfalls** and the **New Sydney Zoo**. Scenic World is located in the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains. In any season, Scenic World Blue Mountains is a must see for overseas and interstate visitors. **(Breakfast and Lunch)**

Overnight Stay: Sydney – Novotel Sydney Central

Day 12 – Saturday - March 7, 2026 - Cairns – World heritage Skyrail Adventure - Kuranda

This morning, we transfer to Sydney Airport for our flight to Cairns. Upon arrival in Cairns, we will embark on a journey aboard **Australia's World Heritage Skyrail** to Kuranda. Gliding just meters above the rainforest canopy in comfortable six-person gondola cabins, the Skyrail journey immerses you in an intimate rainforest experience where you'll see, hear, smell and become part of the tropical rainforest environment. Relax and enjoy the stunning rainforest scenery, panoramic views of the Cairns' tropical Falls, where you'll explore this amazing environment from the forest floor on boardwalks, scenic look-outs and in the state-of-the-art Rainforest Interpretation Centre. Skyrail is recognized as a world leader in eco-tourism and provides a truly unique rainforest experience. We'll enjoy lunch in Kuranda before heading back to Cairns for our overnight stays (Balance of afternoon and evening free). **(Breakfast & Lunch)**

Overnight Stay: Cairns – Pacific Cairns Hotel

Day 13 – Sunday - March 8, 2026 - Great Barrier Reef Tour

Quicksilver will take us to Agincourt Reef, at the very outer edge of the Barrier Reef. Here, special reefs known as 'ribbons' run parallel to the Continental Shelf. Adjacent to the Coral Sea trench, these ribbon reefs are recognized as the most pristine eco-systems in the reef's environment. Clear water provides the best possible underwater visibility, encourages rich coral growth and supports spectacular marine life. As the region's outer reef pioneer, we chose the best location available to show you nature's finest.

Includes:

* Morning and afternoon teas * Tropical Smorgasbord Lunch * Snorkel Equipment * Coral Viewing semi-submersible
* Underwater Observatory * Marine Biologist on board

(Breakfast & Lunch)

Overnight Stay: Cairns – Pacific Cairns Hotel

Day 14 – Monday March 9, 2026 - Cairns - Melbourne City Sights Tour

After breakfast we transfer to the Cairns Airport for our flight to Melbourne, Australia. Upon arrival in Melbourne, we enjoy a **City Sights Tour** including an English-speaking guide. See premier examples of Melbourne Victorian architectural splendor including 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, as well as Fitzroy Gardens and Albert Park. The balance of the afternoon and evening is free to explore on our own. **(Breakfast)**

Overnight Stay: Melbourne – Clarion Suites Hotel

Day 15 – Tuesday - March 10, 2026 - Welcome to Fiji – Orientation

This morning, we transfer to the Melbourne airport and check through customs for our flight to Fiji. Upon arrival in Nadi, Fiji we have an orientation of the area and processing before arrival at our resort hotel for the next two nights. A luxury resort is situated in the heart of Fiji's Coral Coast. Outrigger Fiji Beach Resort is set on a white sand beach, amongst 40 acres of tall palms and lush tropical landscaped gardens. The resort was designed and built to reflect the true Fijian experience and way of life; it is where traditional Fijian village meets five-star luxury!

Enjoy all the amenities of the resort including beach access, restaurants, guest services and relaxing with sun-sand-beaches!!

Overnight Stay: Nadi, Fiji Outrigger Beach Resort

Day 16 – Wednesday - March 11, 2026 - “Ah the Good Life” - Fiji

Another day of relaxing, exploring the area or enjoying the food and culture that only Fiji has to offer. Your tour host will be available to recommend a variety of activities for you to enjoy.

Overnight Stay: Nadi, Fiji Outrigger Beach Resort

Day 17 – Thursday March 12, 2026 - International Date Line - Welcome Home!

This morning, we transfer to the Fiji airport for clearing customs and precheck-in for our flight home. Final flight schedules and times will be available in travel packets before trip commences.

A valid passport that is more than 6 months from expiration of the date of return to the United States is required.

Your Tour Includes:

- USA home transfers to and from Chicago O'Hare International Airport
- All motorcoach transportation and transfers of itineraries New Zealand, Australia, Fiji
- Tri-State Travel Tour Director
- Host Guides during touring of New Zealand, Australia, Fiji
- International flights US/New Zealand/Fiji/US
- Intermodal flights Rotorua/Queenstown/Sydney/Cairns/Melbourne/Fiji
- Gratuities to U.S., New Zealand, Australia, Fiji drivers, U.S. and Local Host Guides, including attractions & meals

New Zealand Inclusions:

- Seven night's hotel and luggage handling where available
- One night at a farm family stay
- Eight breakfasts, four lunches, five dinners
- Attractions and farm visits as stated in the itinerary
- All national park fees
- Current Goods and Government Service Fees

Australia Inclusions:

- Five night's hotel and luggage handling where available
- Four breakfasts, Four lunches
- Attractions and farm visits as stated in the itinerary
- All national park fees
- Current Goods and Government Service Fees

Fiji Inclusions:

- Two Night's hotel resort accommodations
- Island transfers & luggage handling
- Orientation

Tour Does Not Include:

- Travel Protection Plan
- Luggage Fees Assessed by The Airline
- Items of a personal nature

Price per person

\$12,849.00 per person double occupancy (two to a room)

\$15,069.00 per person single occupancy

CURRENT AIR FARES ARE SUBJECT TO FUTURE GOVERNMENT FEES & SURCHARGES.

Payment/Cancellation & Refund Policy:

- \$1,500.00 per person deposit due with reservation
- Balance of payment is due on or before November 1, 2025.
- Cancellations received on or before November 1, 2025 will receive a full refund less a \$500.00 per person administrative fee
- Cancellations received after November 1, 2025 and prior to December 1, 2025 will be assessed 25% of the per person tour price
- Cancellations received on or after December 1, 2025 and prior to January 1, 2026 will be assessed 75% of the per person tour price

- Cancellations received on or after January 1, 2026 will forfeit the full of the tour price

Travel Protection Plan

The Travel Protection Plan is not included but is available and strongly recommended. There are two plans available.

#1 sign up for insurance and pay the premium at the time you register for the tour and the pre-existing condition waiver is included. (See insurance brochure for details)

#2 sign up for the travel insurance any time after your initial trip deposit and prior to the final date for trip registration and receive the same travel insurance inclusions except the pre-existing waiver will not apply. The trip interruption and medical cancellation insurance Premium is non-refundable unless the entire tour cancels. We offer a travel protection plan through Trip Mate Travel Insurance/a division of United States Fire Insurance Company Eatontown, NJ. Any surcharges and/or tax increases received from suppliers for this package (Airlines, Cruise Companies, Hotels, etc.) may result in an increase in the per person price of your tour package. For those individuals who may have purchased the Travel Protection Plan, this may also result in an increase in your Travel Protection Plan Premium. Please refer to www.tripmate.com/Plan_TPD13 for information regarding detailed coverages and limitations to the insurance policy. Waiver of Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion. The exclusion for pre-existing condition will be waived provided (a) your payment for this plan is received within seven days of the date your initial payment or deposit for your trip is received; and (b) You are not disabled from travel at the time your plan payment is paid.

Responsibility Clause

Tri-State Travel, in offering this tour, do so only as agents as outlined in this brochure. Therefore, Tri-State Travel shall not become liable or responsible for any loss, injury or damage to person, property or otherwise in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, pandemics, dangers incident to the waters, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of governments, or other civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferage, defaults, delays, quarantines, or cancellations of or changes in itinerary, accommodations or schedules. The right is reserved to decline; to accept or retain any person should a person's health, mental or physical condition or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare or enjoyment of the other passengers and a refund of the unused land tour services is the limit of the agent's liability should such a person be required to terminate the tour. The right is reserved to withdraw the tour at any time and liability is limited to refund of all monies received. No refunds will be granted for unused portions of this tour unless arranged with the operator's approval in writing in advance. Application for membership and / or posting deposit for this tour shall constitute the participant's consent to the above terms and conditions.

We have assigned a Physical Activity Rating LEVEL 4 to this tour:

Longer walking tours, airports, security lines, hills and aggregate walking paths associated with national parks, and beaches. Handicap facilities and or, accessibility to attractions may be limited. Carryon bags are your responsibility. If you would like further information or specific details please contact your trip sponsor or travel provider regarding handicap issues, handling your back/packs and carry-on bags.

For Additional Information and Reservations Contact:

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