

# **SCENIC SIP AND SAIL**

## **INDIAN PACIFIC**

SYDNEY TO PERTH DEPARTING WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY TO APRIL AND OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER) 7 Days / 6 Nights

Crossing Australia from Sydney to Perth aboard the Indian Pacific is one of the world's great rail journeys and your experience doesn't have to end in Perth. When you reach the Western Australian capital, extend your explorations with a seaplane flight to Margaret River and a fabulous day on Rottnest Island.

### INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights aboard the Indian Pacific, Sydney to Perth, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Broken Hill, Adelaide, Cook and Rawlinna
- Transfer from Rail Terminal to hotel
- 3 nights' accommodation in Perth, including breakfast daily
- Return Seaplane flight to Margaret River, touring, wine tastings and lunch
- 1 day Discover Rottnest tour including lunch
- 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore mining and artistic history in Broken Hill
- Visit the foodie capital of South Australia, Adelaide
- Witness the barren beauty of the Nullarbor Plain
- Discover the almost-ghost town of Cook
- Scenic seaplane flight to and from Margaret River
- Experience delicious fine wines with food pairings in the heart of Margaret River
- Cruise to Rottnest Island and meet a quokka

#### DAY 1 - BOARD THE INDIAN PACIFIC IN SYDNEY

Departing Sydney's Central Station, get acquainted with your cabin and fellow travellers. Take in spectacular views as the Indian Pacific winds through the Blue Mountains. Tonight, you will enjoy your first meal on board – a regionally inspired dinner paired with fine wine and beverages. After dinner, consider a nightcap in the lounge before you retire to your cabin. (D)

### DAY 2 – INDIAN PACIFIC, BROKEN HILL AND ADELAIDE

After breakfast, prepare for your first Off Train Experience in Broken Hill, the Silver City. Explore mining heritage through visiting the Broken Hill Trades Hall and the striking Miners Memorial that stands over the town or for a different take on Broken Hill, go on a tour of the main drag with fabulous local Drag Queen sensation, Shelita Buffet.

Art aficionados may opt to visit the captivating Living Desert Sculpture site or take in the exhibitions at the oldest regional art gallery in New South. Alternatively, ignite a sense of nostalgia at Bells Milk Bar, an icon of Broken Hill, sipping on malted milk while a performance by Cindy and Johnny takes you back to the 50's.

Lunch is served back on board as the Indian Pacific enters the southern tip of the ancient Flinders Ranges.

Arriving in Adelaide in the late afternoon, you'll have the opportunity for an Off Train Experience, exploring the South Australian Museum or indulging in an epicurean experience. Visit the Barossa Valley or McLaren Vale to sample fine South Australian wines before an indulgent meal, or try a cheese or gin tasting in the charming Adelaide Hills village of Hahndorf before feasting at Haus – a German restaurant showcasing the best in local produce. Alternatively, visit Adelaide Central Markets for a tour and exclusive sit-down dinner.

After dinner, return to the train to continue your journey west. (B,L,D)

### DAY 3 - INDIAN PACIFIC, NULLARBOR PLAIN

Today is all about those amazing outback views as you cross this famous stretch of the Australian interior, the ancient Nullarbor Plain, on the longest stretch of straight railway track in the world. En route, the Indian Pacific calls in to Cook, once-bustling, now almost-ghost town that was originally built as a support town for the railway.

Travelling further west, the next stop is at Rawlinna on the fringe of Australia's largest sheep station for a signature dinner under a thousand stars (seasonal). (B,L,D)



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#### DAY 4 – INDIAN PACIFIC, PERTH

Admire the delightful undulations of the Avon Valley and enjoy a final breakfast on board as the final stage of your transcontinental crossing unfolds, heading into Perth. Transfer to your accommodation, where your connection with the Indian Ocean begins. (B)

**OVERNIGHT: 3 nights The Ritz Carlton Perth** 

### **DAY 5 – TASTE OF MARGARET RIVER FLIGHT**

Start your day by being collected from your CBD hotel or arrive at Queen Street Jetty on the South Perth Esplanade, where you check in for your seaplane flight. After departing the Swan River, you will experience a 45-minute scenic flight with low-level aerial views of Perth, Fremantle, Carnac and Garden Island, Mandurah and the famous Busselton Jetty.

Upon arrival into the Margaret River wine region, your 3.5hour adventure begins with a stop at Aravina Estate, a stunning cellar door and state-of-the-art winemaking facility, for a guided tasting and lunch overlooking the vines. After lunch, make a leisurely visit to the on-site Surf and Sportscars Museum.

Next is Windows Estate, a boutique winery known for its minimalistic approach to winemaking. Here, you will sample their best wines, along with cheese pairings, before returning to Busselton Airport for the low-altitude return flight, arriving on the calm waters of Perth in just 45 minutes. (B,L)

#### DAY 6 - ROTTNEST ISLAND

Make your way to Barrack Street Jetty and board Rottnest Express, bound for Rottnest Island, 22kms offshore. A 90minute air-conditioned bus tour around 'Rotto' takes you to some spectacular locations, including Wadjemup Lighthouse and the boardwalk lookout at the rugged west end. Feast on a delicious lunch before exploring the island at your leisure – make sure you meet a quokka. Return to Perth by ferry in the afternoon. (B,L)

### DAY 7 – FAREWELL

After breakfast, check out of your accommodation. This signals the end of your epic journey across Australia. (B)