

## MARGARET RIVER & ROTTNEST DISCOVERY

### INDIAN PACIFIC

SYDNEY TO PERTH

DEPARTING WEDNESDAY (SET DEPARTURES IN FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER)

9 Days / 8 Nights

Embark on an unforgettable journey aboard the Indian Pacific, crossing the vast Nullarbor Plain from east to west. Then, immerse yourself in the beauty of Western Australia's South West, exploring the majestic Karri forests and the renowned Margaret River region, where you'll enjoy exceptional food and wine tastings. Discover the natural wonders of the area before relaxing on the sun-drenched shores of idyllic Rottneest Island, home to friendly quokkas.

#### 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
- 6-day Margaret River and Rottneest Island Explorer intimate small group touring with Outback Spirit, travelling onboard a state-of-the-art 4WD Mercedes-Benz vehicle, including accommodation, meals, and guided touring
- 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 8 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
- Walk through the Perth Botanical Gardens
- Experience lunch, fine wines, art and music at Leeuwin Estate winery
- Margaret River Boranyup Karri forest
- Indulge in delicious Gabriel Chocolates
- Marvel at the ancient Mammoth Caves
- Enjoy the far-reaching Yallingup coastal views
- Visit the longest jetty in Australia in Busselton
- Take a sightseeing tour of Fremantle
- Idyllic Rottneest Island stay in search of sun, sand and quokkas

*Please note itineraries are subject to change.*

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

Your adventure begins at Sydney's Central Station, where the iconic Indian Pacific waits to carry you across the

continent. As the train eases away from the platform and city skylines fall away, you'll soon be surrounded by the soaring sandstone cliffs and deep valleys of the Blue Mountains. Settle into your cabin or join fellow travellers in the lounge for a drink as the journey unfolds.

This evening, take your seat in the dining car for your first regionally inspired dinner, thoughtfully paired with fine Australian wines and beverages. Afterward, return to the lounge for a nightcap or retreat to your cabin as the train rolls westward. (D)

**OVERNIGHT:** 3 nights Indian Pacific

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

Your morning begins in Broken Hill, the fabled Silver City. Step off the train for your first Off Train Experience – explore the outback towns mining legacy, taking time to reflect at the Miners' Memorial, or for those interested in the curiosities of Broken Hill, join Shelita Buffet, Broken Hill's famous Drag Queen for a morning of fun, creativity and food. Refreshments are included before reboarding the Indian Pacific.

Back on board, enjoy breakfast and lunch as the train sweeps past the southern tip of the Flinders Ranges, South Australia. By late afternoon, you'll arrive in Adelaide for a choice of curated experiences. Savour McLaren Vale wines before dining at the cliffside Star of Greece, or sample gin and cheese in the Adelaide Hills followed by a feast at Haus, a German restaurant showcasing the best of local produce. In the city, Icons of Adelaide includes a behind-the-scenes tour and tasting at Coopers Brewery, a scenic drive, and a teppanyaki dinner at Shiki capped by a twilight stroll to Adelaide Oval. Alternatively, take a guided tour of the Adelaide Central Market, finishing with an exclusive sit-down dinner, in the markets and all to yourself.

After a memorable evening, return to the train to continue your westward journey. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 3 – INDIAN PACIFIC, NULLARBOR PLAIN

Today is all about the vast, unforgettable views of the Nullarbor Plain. You'll journey across this legendary expanse on the world's longest stretch of straight railway track, with endless horizons unfolding outside your window. Along the way, the train pauses at Cook – once a bustling railway town, now a near-ghost outpost with stories etched into its weathered buildings.

By evening, you'll reach Rawlinna, on the edge of Australia's largest sheep station. Here, the outback comes

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alive as you dine beneath a canopy of stars at a spectacular signature long-table dinner (Sept–May). In the cooler months, gather around a roaring bonfire with drinks and canapés, soaking up the atmosphere of this remarkable setting. (B,L,D)

### DAY 4 – INDIAN PACIFIC, PERTH

Wake to the soft light over Western Australia’s Avon Valley, its rolling green hills a fitting finale to your transcontinental adventure. Savour a leisurely brunch on board as the train makes its final approach into Perth. Soon, you’ll step off the Indian Pacific, farewelling fellow travellers and crew before transferring to your accommodation, where your 6-day Margaret River and Rottneest Island Explorer tour begins.

This afternoon, enjoy an introduction to the city of Perth as we take an informative tour of the city, including Kings Park, with the opportunity to take a walk through the Botanical Gardens. This evening, share a special welcome dinner at Reel Restaurant overlooking the Swan River. (B,D)

**OVERNIGHT:** 1 night DoubleTree by Hilton Perth Waterfront

### DAY 5 – PERTH TO MARGARET RIVER

This morning, we leave the city and head south to the picturesque Margaret River Region. Renowned for its world class wines and unspoilt coastline, stunning inland rivers, tall timber forests and ancient underground caves, making it one of the most unique destinations on earth. With a short stop enroute, we head to Leeuwin Estate winery for lunch, where we experience a combination of fine wines, food, art and music. Later we head to the tall timber Karri forests of Boranyup and marvel at the sight of these enormous trees, some over 60 metres in height. After a feast of the senses with the forest floor tumbling with wildflowers and ferns, together with the sounds of native birds and the fresh smell of eucalypt, we head to our hotel. Dine tonight at the Margaret River Brewhouse. (B,L,D)

**OVERNIGHT:** 2 nights Margarets in Town

### DAY 6 – MARGARET RIVER

We spend some free time this morning enjoying the Margaret River township before heading to Gabriel Chocolate, Western Australia’s first bean to bar chocolate maker. Taste the latest range of chocolate bars being made, hear the techniques used to create this delicious chocolate and take a sample with you. Next, we head to Mammoth Cave for a self-guided tour that offers a unique window into the past, over 10,000 fossils once

accumulated inside the cave. When exploring this incredible cave system, you will come face to face with a 50,000-year-old “zygomaturus” jawbone Embedded in the cave wall. From here, we make our way to Yallingup and take in the majestic coastal views out to the Indian Ocean. There is time to wander along the sandy beach and take in the breathtaking scenery. Tonight, dine at a local Margaret River restaurant. (B,L,D)

### DAY 7 – MARGARET RIVER, BUSSELTON, FREMANTLE, ROTTNESST ISLAND

Leaving the Margaret River Region, we travel to Busselton on Geographe Bay and walk the famous 1.7-kilometre jetty – the longest in Australia. We travel north passing the port city of Bunbury, Australind to Mandurah. Enjoy a fish and chip lunch on the beach at Mandurah before heading to Fremantle. Undertake a sights tour before joining the Rottneest Express ferry to Wadjemup, Rottneest Island. Here, we experience and learn all that Rottneest Island has to offer from ancient history, nature and wildlife, spectacular scenery, walking trails and around 10,000 adorable quokkas. We check-in to our hotel for a 2-night stay. (B,L,D)

**OVERNIGHT:** 2 nights Rottneest Island

### DAY 8 – ROTTNESST ISLAND

Today we spend the day exploring Rottneest Island, renowned for its 63 stunning beaches and home to the ever-smiling quokka. After a leisurely start, we’ll take an informative bus tour around the island’s most spectacular locations, with insightful commentary. You might even meet a quokka or two along the way. Enjoy a delicious picnic lunch (with bubbles!), before spending the afternoon at your leisure back at the resort. Enjoy dinner tonight at the hotel with fellow travellers and reminisce about your amazing trip. (B,L,D)

### DAY 9 – ROTTNESST ISLAND TO PERTH

This morning after breakfast at the hotel, we board the Rottneest Express ferry back to Fremantle. Rejoin our coach before being transferred to Perth where your exploration of Perth, Margaret River and Rottneest Island comes to an end. (B)