***Tourism Australia acknowledges the Traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Owners of the land, sea and waters of the Australian continent, and recognises their custodianship of culture and Country for over 65,000 years.***

**Sydney/Warrane to Brisbane/Meeanjin**

***Discover Aboriginal Experiences is a collective of inspiring and transformational experiences***

***guided by Aboriginal people who share their country and bring the landscape to***

***life through their stories. Further information and trade resources available at:***

[***http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)

***Cultural Attractions of Australia is an extensive collection of iconic Australian arts, cultural heritage and sporting organisations. These attractions offer premium, behind-the-scenes experiences providing visitors with a window into what it means to be Australian.***

[***www.culturalattractionsofaustralia.com***](http://www.culturalattractionsofaustralia.com)

***Ultimate Winery Experiences Australia is a hand selected collection of Australia’s premium wineries offering quality winery experiences based around world class wines, warm and knowledgeable hospitality and culinary excellence.***

[***www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au***](http://www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au)

*Tourism Australia disclaims any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accidents, incidents, delay or expense to any person or property due to your booking of or participation in any service described in this itinerary including those caused in connection with an act of negligence of or default of any service provider, tour operator, company or person rendering any of the services, or for any errors or omissions in this itinerary. Please note that the persons, vehicles, establishments, places, attractions and other features depicted or described may not be part of your actual tour depending on availability and circumstances.*

*As a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, some experiences may not be operating for certain periods or running to altered schedules. Information is correct at time publication, however, please use this itinerary as a guide and check each businesses’ website for the most up-to-date information.*

**DAY 1 Sydney/Warrane**

*Welcome to Sydney, the vibrant capital of New South Wales. Discover the iconic Sydney Harbour, golden sand beaches, lush national parks, delectable restaurants, and a buzzing calendar of events. Sydney sparkles all year round and it’s the perfect holiday spot for families, couples and friends.*

This morning, make your way to Cadman’s Cottage and embark on [**Illi Langi (The Rocks Aboriginal Dreaming Tour)**](http://www.dreamtimesouthernx.com.au/Our-Tours/The-Rocks-Aboriginal-Dreaming-Tour) with [**Dreamtime Southern X**](http://www.dreamtimesouthernx.com.au/).

This leisurely walkabout around The Rocks uncovers the authentic history of the Aboriginal people’s saltwater heritage within Sydney Harbour, their land and water use and their spiritual connection to the adjoining waterways and foreshores.

Aboriginal guides will demonstrate how this place we now know as Sydney continues to weave the Dreamtime Southern X text into its modern, built-up environment. Discover how to experience contemporary Aboriginal society right in the heart of cosmopolitan Sydney today.

*Dreamtime Southern X is a member* *of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences Australia***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)***.***

Tour concludes at Campbells Cove Park Hyatt Sydney.

Enjoy lunch at an historic pub in **The Rocks** area before returning to the hotel to relax.

This evening, walk to the [**Sydney Opera House**](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/) and enjoy sunset drinks and fresh oysters at the [**Opera Bar**](http://www.operabar.com.au/) before catching an [**Opera Australia Presents Opera**](https://culturalattractionsofaustralia.com/experiences/opera-australia-presents-opera-at-the-sydney-opera-house/) performance.

*One of the most iconic buildings in the world – the Sydney Opera House is an architectural masterpiece and vibrant performance space. It’s a place where the past shapes the future, where conventions are challenged, and cultures are celebrated.*

Come inside the Sydney Opera House and see an Opera Australia performance. Each year features a range of world-famous opera titles like La Bohème and The Merry Widow.

*The Sydney Opera House and Opera Australia are members of* [***Cultural Attractions of Australia****.*](https://culturalattractionsofaustralia.com/)

**Overnight: Four Seasons Hotel Sydney**

**DAY 2**

Walk to [**BridgeClimb Sydney**](http://www.bridgeclimb.com/)for a[**Burrawa Indigenous Climb Experience**](http://www.bridgeclimb.com/climbs-prices/burrawa).

See Australia’s largest city through Indigenous eyes on the Burrawa Indigenous Climb Experience. Glimpse historic and sacred sites and hear riveting Dreaming tales as you climb 134 metres above the glittering blue waters of Sydney Harbour in the company of an Aboriginal storyteller on this 3-hour climb.

*Burrawa Indigenous Climb Experience is a member* *of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences Australia***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)***.***

On completion make your way to the Festival Pontoon (in front of Maritime Museum) for a [**Sydney By Sail**](http://www.sydneybysail.com/), Darling Harbour for a [**three-hour sail**](https://www.sydneybysail.com/tourist/daily-sailing-trips).

Ahoy there! Join your skipper and crew for an exploration of Sydney Harbour on a luxury yacht. You can play a part in the crew - trimming the sail or trying your hand at the helm – your friendly skipper will show you the ropes. If you prefer to just relax on deck as you glide around the shimmering waters, please do.

Wet Weather alternative

Head to the [**Australian Museum**](http://www.australian.museum/) and join a [**Waranara First Nations Tour**](https://australian.museum/event/waranara-tours/).

Journey through the cultures, history and objects of this land’s First peoples. A member of the First Nations team will guide you through the First Nations collection, Bayala Nura and Garrigarrang, weaving in personal stories of their own Country, culture and experiences.

*The Australian Museum is a member* *of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences Australia***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)***.***

Enjoy dinner at one of the bustling waterfront restaurants around **Darling Harbour** or **Circular Quay.**

**Overnight: Four Seasons Hotel Sydney**

**DAY 3**

Check out of your hotel and collect your rental vehicle. Today you will make your way to the Hunter Valley.

Stop in at [**Firescreek Botanical Winery**](https://firescreek.com.au/) at Holgate on the Central Coast for the [**Aboriginal Storytelling and Wine Tasting Experience**](https://firescreek.com.au/aboriginal-storytelling-and-wine-tasting/) commencing at 11am.

This workshop includes Aboriginal storytelling, didgeridoo and clapping stick display as well as an immersive discussion of Indigenous artefacts. Experience a bush tucker tasting of seasonal plants and a presentation by highly talented and well-respected Aboriginal Elder from the Darkinjung Land Council. A guided wine tasting explains how Australian native flora and other botanicals are used to make these unique wines.

*Firescreek Botanical Winery Aboriginal Storytelling and Wine Tasting Experience is a member* *of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences Australia***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)***.***

Head a bit further up the coast to the[**Ocean Restaurant**](https://www.oceanrestaurant.com.au/) at **The Entrance** for lunch with ocean views.

Continue on to the **Hunter Valley** and check into your hotel.

*Surrounded by magnificent natural beauty, and only two hours from Sydney, the Hunter Valley is an unrivalled destination that has delighted since vines first thrived in the 1820s. With more cellar doors than any other wine region in Australia, one of the great pleasures of wine tasting here is the incredible breadth of flavour and character. While Hunter Valley semillon and shiraz have long been world-famous, you’ll also sip distinctive and innovative wines, from classic to newer varieties.*

Make your way to [**Brokenwood**](https://www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au/wineries/brokenwood/)winery for a [**Brokenwood Match**](https://www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au/experiences/brokenwood-match-hunter-valley/) experience.

Arrive at Brokenwood’s stunning cellar door and be greeted by the friendly concierge staff who will take you to the Match room. Enjoy a self-guided, seated wine and food flight with a selection of 6 Brokenwood wines matched with bite-sized seasonal canapés.

*Brokenwood is a member of* [***Ultimate Wineries Experiences Australia***](https://www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au/)*.*

This evening, head to [**EXP Restaurant**](https://www.exprestaurant.com.au/) for one of the Hunter Valley’s most adventurous dining experiences.

**Overnight: Spicers Guesthouse**

**DAY 4**

Today, make your way to [**Audrey Wilkinson**](http://www.audreywilkinson.com.au/) and collect your picnic basket for a [**Picnic Among the Vines**](https://www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au/experiences/picnic-among-the-vines-audrey-wilkinson-vineyard/).

Enjoy a self-guided tour of the onsite museum, followed by a master class and premium tasting from an in-house wine expert. Collect your bottle of handpicked wine along with a picnic hamper and select a scenic location within the 270-acre property to enjoy the picturesque view and immerse yourself amongst the vines where you will feel as though you have the whole vineyard to yourself!

After your picnic, visit [**Tyrell’s Vineyard**](http://www.tyrells.com.au/) for the [**Sacred Sites Exclusive Experience**](https://ultimatewineryexperiences.rezdy.com/422530/sacred-sites-experience-hosted-by-bruce-or-chris-tyrrell?_ga=2.163378428.1934247698.1660006887-1815169578.1658187637&_gac=1.56697432.1660020939.CjwKCAjw6MKXBhA5EiwANWLODM0p_KC_MbZXjLTez5MUzBHo02lpJNnFAYmf2Q4Wd0xdIlgf4cSRzRoCyBsQAvD_BwE).

Fourth Generation, Bruce Tyrrell, or Fifth Generation, Chris Tyrrell, hosts a private and personalised tour of Tyrrell’s Sacred Sites vineyards, located on the Ashmans property. The Sacred Sites are ungrafted dry-grown vineyards which are over 100 years old. Tyrrell’s own 7 of the 11 oldest vineyards in NSW. These vineyards are still producing exceptional fruit which is made into some of the most sought-after wines in Australia, all of which are generally pre-sold prior to release. This experience will also include a winery tour and barrel tasting followed by a tutored tasting of the Sacred Sites collection.

*Audrey Wilkinson and Tyrell’s are members of* [***Ultimate Winery Experiences Australia****.*](https://www.ultimatewineryexperiences.com.au/regions/hunter-valley/#wineries)

This evening, explore the contemporary tastes and techniques of modern Australian cuisine at [**Restaurant Botanica**](https://restaurantbotanica.com.au/), located at [**Spicers Guesthouse**](https://spicersretreats.com/retreats/spicers-guesthouse/).

**Overnight: Spicers Guesthouse**

**DAY 5**

Today, you will be heading to the beautiful **Port Stephens**, approximately 1.5 hours’ drive from the Hunter Valley.

Start the day with a stop at the [**Hunter Valley Cheese Company**](http://www.huntervalleycheese.com.au/) for a cheese tasting experience.

Continue on to Port Stephens.

Enjoy lunch at [**Little Beach Boathouse**](https://littlebeachboathouse.com.au/), which overlooks a quiet strip of the bay. Order a tray of local oysters with sourdough or choose from the wide variety of fish.

A day in Port Stephens isn’t complete without an afternoon on the water. Take a [**Moonshadow TQC**](https://moonshadow-tqc.com.au/) **dolphin or whale watching cruise\***. Dolphins and whales are common off the coast of Port Stephens, so your chance of an up-close encounter is high.

***\**** *from May to November*

Check into your accommodation**.**

Tonight, enjoy dinner at [**Rick Stein at Bannisters**](https://www.bannisters.com.au/menu/rick-stein-port-stephens-menu/) offering freshly caught seafood and boutique wines.

**Overnight Bannisters Port Stephens**

**DAY 6**

### Drive to the Stockton Bight Sand Dunes for an adrenalin-filled 1.5 hour [**Aboriginal Culture, Sand Boarding and Quad Bike Tour**](https://sandduneadventures.com.au/tours/quad-bikes/) with [**Sand Dune Adventures**](https://sandduneadventures.com.au/).

Enjoy exclusive access to a sandy adventure wonderland on this exhilarating quad bike tour of the largest mobile sand dunes in the Southern Hemisphere. Thrills are guaranteed as you tackle the towering dunes head on, cresting the gigantic sand hills on the four-wheeled bikes or sandboarding down the 60-degree slopes.

*Sand Dune Adventures is a member of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)*.*

Head back into Nelson Bay for lunch at [**The Little Nel**](https://littlenel.com.au/).

If you’re feeling energetic, take in the picturesque ocean views from the [**Tomaree Head Summit walk**](https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/walking-tracks/tomaree-head-summit-walk). Allow about two hours for this short, but challenging hike. You may even sport whales between May and October.

This evening, relax over a two-hour[**Sunset cruise**](http://www.bluewatersailing.com.au/#!Daily%20Charters) with [**Blue Water Sailing**](http://www.bluewatersailing.com.au/).

This is the perfect way to end your day in Port Stephens. Glide across the sheltered waters of the bay onboard the luxury yacht ‘Champagne on Ice’ as the wind eases and the light turns golden. Relax as the sun slowly sinks into the western end of the harbour. Add a platter of gourmet cheeses and the freshest of Port Stephens seafood, and you will never forget the moment.

**Overnight Bannisters Port Stephens**

**DAY 7**

Check out of your accommodation and head north to **Coffs Harbour**.

Make sure you’ve prebooked a table for lunch at [**The Stunned Mullet**](https://thestunnedmullet.com.au/) in **Port Macquarie** offering sweeping ocean views from its beachside location.

Just a few minutes away, don’t miss a visit to the Koala Hospital where you can take a free self-guided outdoor walk. The Koala Hospital consists of exhibit enclosures, a treatment clinic, intensive care units and rehabilitation yards, many of which have trees for koalas to learn to climb as part of the rehabilitation process. There is also a Koalaseum - a museum for Koalas which provides information on koala evolution and biology and interactive displays.

Arrive Coffs Harbour and transfer to your accommodation.

*From bushwalking and whale watching to the iconic Big Banana, stunning beaches, a marine sanctuary and more, the beachside city of Coffs Harbour is full of attractions*.

#### This afternoon head to [**The Big Banana**](https://bigbanana.com/). This icon features the biggest indoor Giant Slide in the country, the biggest Water Park between Sydney and The Gold Coast, a famous Toboggan Ride overlooking the beautiful Pacific Ocean, a 36 hole Mini-Golf course, State-of-the-art Laser Tag arena, a Demolition Derby, Ice Skating rink and a 4D Ride Simulator. For a slightly less active experience, visit the World of Bananas Theatre and plantation tour or Steve McEwan’s Reptile World.

Tonight, enjoy dinner at [**Fiasco Ristorante and Bar**](https://fiascorestaurant.com.au/) and indulge in some Italian comfort food.

**Overnight Breakfree Aanuka Beach Resort**

**DAY 6**

Grab your hat and sunscreen and enjoy a day on the pristine waterways of the Solitary Islands Marine Park with [**Wajaana Yaam Gumbaynggirr Adventure Tours**](http://www.wajaanayaam.com.au/).

[**The Full Day Cultural Tour: Paddle and Walk Premium**](https://wajaanayaam.com.au/tours/book-now/) comprises a stand-up paddle

tour followed by a cultural walking tour. This 4.5 hour cultural tour includes

Gumbaynggirr stories, language and bush tucker from the stunning creek and cultural

significant walking locations.

Learn how the Gumbaynggirr language came to be in the Dreaming and learn simple

Gumbaynggirr phrases, sample bush food learn about the resilience of the

Gumbaynggirr culture and how this has been preserved over time.

*Wajaana Yaam Gumbaynggirr Adventure Tours is a member of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)*.*

Return to your hotel to freshen up before a casual dinner with beach and park views at [**The Surf Club Restaurant and Bar**](https://surfclubcoffsharbour.com.au/).

**Overnight Breakfree Aanuka Beach Resort**

**DAY 7**

Check out of your accommodation for your drive to **Byron Bay**.

Take a short 10-minute drive up through banana plantations to the [**Forest Sky Pier, Niigi Niigi – Sealy Lookout**](https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au/visit/forests/orara-east), offering magnificent views over the city of Coffs Harbour and up and down the coastline. This lookout sits within a flora reserve in the Orara East State Forest on Gumbayggirr Country. There are several walks through the rainforest ranging from 1 to 3 hours.

Continue on until you reach Byron Bay.

*Australia’s most famous beach town beguiles everyone from backpackers to Hollywood celebrities with its stunning stretches of sand and world-class surf breaks, right alongside an amazing array of restaurants, resorts, wellness activities, alternative culture and adventure.*

Enjoy a cold drink and lunch at the famous [**Beach Hotel**](https://www.beachhotel.com.au/index.php#index.htm) on Main Beach where you can watch an eclectic array of visitors and locals walk by.

Spend the rest of the afternoon browsing the local boutiques; from boho fashions to international designers and vintage stores, there’s something for everyone.

Treat yourself to dinner at the exclusive [**Rae’s Wategos**](https://raes.com.au/diningroom/), offering a Mediterranean style menu showcasing the best produce from the local region.

**Overnight: Crystalbrook Byron**

**DAY 8**

Wake early and head on up to the [**Cape Byron lighthouse ­­**](https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/historic-buildings-places/cape-byron-lighthouse)— the most easterly point in mainland Australia. This is the first spot in Australia to see the rising sun, so don’t miss the sunrise and unforgettable views, particularly if there are dolphins splashing about in the ocean below.

Depart Byron Bay and stop in for brunch at the [**Social Crew**](https://www.facebook.com/socialbrewburleigh/) in **Burleigh Heads**. Afterwards, head down to Burleigh Beach to stretch your legs and enjoy one of the Golc Coast’s finest beaches.

Arrive **Brisbane** and check into your accommodation.

*The riverside capital city of Brisbane is a cosmopolitan hub on the doorstep of rugged national parks, idyllic beaches and family-friendly destinations like the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. From world-class museums to boisterous rooftop bars, craft breweries, and fine dining restaurants offering award-winning food and wine,* [*Brisbane*](https://www.visitbrisbane.com.au/) *has an exciting social scene with plenty of activities to add to your itinerary.*

Spend the evening discovering Brisbane’s rooftop bars such as [**Maya Mexican**](https://www.maya-mexican.com.au/), [**Dirty Sultan**](https://www.dirtysultan.com/) and [**Lina Rooftop**](https://linarooftop.com.au/).

**Overnight: Spicers Balfour**

**DAY 9**

This morning, visit the internationally renowned Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA). The museum’s Indigenous Australian art collection has a focus on contemporary art, including paintings, sculpture, printmaking, photography, video and installation.

*Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) is a member of* [***Cultural Attractions of Australia***](https://culturalattractionsofaustralia.com/)***.***

This afternoon stroll down to Brisbane’s cultural and entertainment precinct and take a **VIP Gondola** on the [**Wheel of Brisbane**](http://www.thewheelofbrisbane.com.au/)– an iconic Brisbane landmark. Enjoy birds-eye views of the city, complete with luxurious leather seats, tinted windows and a piccolo of Sirromet wine or sparkling wine.

This evening, transfer to [**Spirits of the Red Sand**](http://www.spiritsredsand.com/) for an [**Aboriginal live theatre experience**](https://spiritsredsand.com/experiences/the-evening-experience/).

A world-first in authentic Aboriginal storytelling, **Spirits of the Red Sand** is an award-winning moving theatre and dinner experience that takes you beyond Dreamtime to 1800s Australia when the British and Aboriginal ways of life collide.

Spirits of the Red Sand is a first-of-its kind experience, a true cultural awakening that will open your eyes to the history, beauty and vibrancy of Aboriginal peoples.

From the start of the live theatre experience to Indigenous song and dance, the 3-course dinner and the final meet and greet of cast and crew – this is a completely immersive and interactive evening that the whole family will enjoy.

*Spirits of the Red Sand is a member of* [***Discover Aboriginal Experiences***](http://www.discoveraboriginalexperiences.com/)*.*

**Overnight: Spicers Balfour**