

ONLY IN AUSTRALIA



Welcome to Tourism Australia's **Journeys** edition which shares a regional showcase of the very best of 'what lies beyond.'

If every journey begins with a single step, then the step to take toward some remarkable Australian journeys is a very small – just across the Tasman to your favourite gateway city, East or West, North or South . . . a wonderful journey of discovery awaits, and it is closer than you think.

What is an Australian Journey?

As the favourite and most visited holiday destination of Kiwis, it makes sense that there is a strong sense of familiarity for all things OZ. Australia is seen as more of a 'hop, skip and a jump' – a show-stopping, shopping weekend, fun in the sun or indulging in fine food and wine. These are the things we know and love, but what lies beyond? Beyond our much-loved gateway cities is a world waiting to be discovered and much of it is within easy reach of the city. Here we showcase some highly accessible journeys that will deliver some unique and truly exceptional Australian experiences, many of which are considered to be amongst the best in the world.



QUEENSLAND'S QUALIA A Perfect 100! And just beyond the gateway

When your journey is in search of nothing but the best, Queensland's tropical Qualia Resort qualia.com deserves top billing. Qualia's triumph of being the best of the very best was showcased in the internationally influential, and highly discerning Conde Nast Traveller magazine. The just published 2013 Gold List reported of readers faultless find in Queensland's Whitsundays tourismwhitsundays.com.au with Qualia more than living up to her name which is Latin for a 'deep sensory experience.' -Qualia is the unchallenged jewel in the Whitsundays crown, with Hamilton Island hamiltonisland.com.au being a 1 hr 40 minute flight from Brisbane.

For unsurpassed luxury and natural beauty right on the threshold of the Great Barrier Reef, Qualia is an undisputed winner. Described as being 'instinctively Australian but distinctly Qualia', Qualia Resort embodies the vision of owner, and Australian Legend, Bob Oatley and brings together that rare quality of relaxed elegance amidst an exceptional natural land and seascape which results in an unsurpassed and truly unique indulgence that is not just best in class, but the best in the world.

JERVIS BAY New South Wales's South Coast and tantalisingly close to Sydney.

Kiwis are not exactly newcomers when it comes to a relaxing road trip down to the coast. An easy 2 hour self drive from Sydney is Jervis Bay, jervisbaytourism.com.au renowned for its laid back lifestyle and home to beaches of extraordinary beauty. This unspoiled region with its population as light and sensitive as its unique natural environment is home to Hyams Beach, widely regarded as having having the whitest sand in the world.

Lovers of seafood and fresh fish will not be left wanting and this can be best experienced at the likes of local cafes such as Wild Ginger. A few clicks onward down the coast will take you to Batemans Bay – nirvana for oyster lovers! Accommodation options range from the coastal classic motel such as the Jervis Bay motel to the coastal 'glamping' of the Paperbark Camp. paperbarkcamp.com.au



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GLASSHOUSE MOUNTAINS

The secret side of the Sunshine Coast

We are all so familiar with the fabulous resort town of Noosa, a favourite amongst kiwis for years, and now direct seasonal flights from Auckland make it even more accessible...however there is more to the Sunshine Coast than, surprisingly enough the coast! sunshinecoast.com.au A scenic and very easy drive from Noosa are the Glasshouse Mountains of Sunshine Coast's hinterland region. nprsr.qld.gov.au Tearing yourself away from the coastline, if even for a day will be rewarded with an experience rich in artisan foods, cafes, characters and for the overnights, there are some very special accommodation offerings including the graciously appointed Spicers Clovelly Estate. spicersgroup.com.au

Just a few minutes from Montville, Spicers Clovelly is part of the Luxury Lodges of Australia group and is nestled in lush gardens and surrounds. With just ten suites, Spicers Clovelly presents boutique luxury amidst a beautiful landscape. The lushness of this region is an oasis for food producers and yields some of the regions finest including Glasshouse Mountains Gourmet Snails, specialty Haloumi Cheese, fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables. Spicers Clovelly brings together the best from their own garden to that of the region to present guests with a distinctive and superb dining experience, which you can engage with first hand at Spicers Clovelly's five-star cooking school – just one of the very special experiences to be enjoyed in this region.



GREAT SOUTHERN TOURING ROUTE Victoria

Renowned as one of the great coastal drive adventures, the Great Southern Touring Route greatsoutherntouring.com.au and recommended as a four-day drive, this route is described as turning the romance of a road trip into a full-blown love affair! Starting out from Melbourne and hugging the dramatic southern coastline, this route ticks all the boxes. From iconic surf spots to the magnificent Twelve Apostles, through historic seaside towns to the foothills of the southern Grampians, this dynamic journey delivers diversity, variety and the most memorable of experiences.

From the coast to the sandstone ranges and dramatic national park of the Grampians to Victoria's historic Goldfields of Ballarat and Bendigo this is the self drive journey that has something for everyone.

Spice up your drive with a convertible or specialty car, a great selection of which is available for pick up and drop off in Melbourne.

visitmelbourne.com.au

FLINDERS RANGES NATIONAL PARK South Australia

A world away, but in reality just 450km north of Adelaide, the Flinders Ranges National Park is one of Australia's esteemed 'National Landscapes'. Deemed so for its outstanding beauty and cultural significance, the Flinders Ranges is an ancient landscape estimated to be around 800 million years in the making and one of the oldest landscapes on the planet. Covering an expanse of more than 95,000 hectares, the Flinders Ranges is home to an array of uniquely Australian experiences including the famed Heysen Trail. At 1200km, this is one of South Australia's longest walks and traverses the Flinders Ranges from the Parachilna Gorge via the Adelaide Hills and out to the coast of Cape Jervis on the beautiful Fleurieu Peninsula. southaustralia.co.nz

For those with slightly less active ambitions, this region can be explored by air, airadventure.com.au group guided touring or self drive. No journey to the Flinders Ranges is complete without a visit to the iconic Australian pub, The Prairie Hotel which is a focal point of Parachilna and patroned by visitors from the world over. The award winning Rawnsley Park rawnsleypark.com.au offers a range of accommodation from luxury eco-villas complete with over bed skylights and commanding views of neighbouring Wilpena Pound to the private Arkapena Homestead nestled amidst the 9,000 ha Rawnsley Park Station. australia.com



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EVENTS

Uniquely Australian Events and Festivals that lie beyond

With over 500 events and festivals taking place around Australia and throughout the year, there is a very good chance that there will be something happening, someplace close to where you intend to be.

Australia.com offers a comprehensive database of events that will turn your clients holiday into an event! The database can be searched by State, month or event type making it easy to find the perfect event to suit your client's interests and holiday plans.

Great local events lie beyond the gateways and add colour, entertainment and insights into a regional Australian holiday. Here we showcase two upcoming events taking place in and around this issue's showcase regions.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2013 Events Calendar

NOOSA FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL Sunshine Coast, Queensland. 16-19 May.

Food stars and wine stars come together in a fusion of the best food and wine from around Australia and the world. Cooking seminars, stalls and tempting treats will sate the most discerning of palates in one of New Zealanders favourite holiday locations.

Don't stop there as there is plenty of post festival action and the surrounding regions are ready to serve up plenty more!

Ticket packages and full programme are available at noosafoodandwine.com.au



PENGUIN BREEDING SEASON One of nature's greatest events. Kangaroo Island April.

Kangaroo island tourkangarooisland.com.au is one of the world's great pristine wilderness destinations and is renowned for its marine wildlife. A scenic ferry crossing from South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula region, Kangaroo Island is one of nature's greatest events. Seals and penguins call the protected sandy shores of Kangaroo Island home for nesting. Fertile lands and rich waters provide the perfect environment for juvenile penguins to gather health and strength before heading out into the waters of the Southern Ocean.

australia.com/campaigns/nationallandscapes/Kangarooisland.htm

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