# AUCKLAND to SYDNEY NEW ZEALAND – AUSTRALIA



Set sail on a journey that adds a new dimension to your travel tales. Exciting, modern, cosmopolitan yet rooted in eons of history, the superlative charms of Australia and New Zealand need no introduction. Their prehistoric beauty mingles with long afternoons spent on the beach and awe-inspiring fiords it is a no wonder why the lands down under are considered two of the finest countries on earth.



DATE: DEC 20, 2019 - JAN 03, 2020 MAR 17 - 31, 2020

**DURATION:** 15 DAYS/12 NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

**DISEMBARK:** SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA (Also Available to Melbourne - 13 days)

**SHIP: Silver Muse** 

Cruise Only FROM: \$7,200

Pre-Cruise hotel included.
Pre- and Post-Cruise tour are available.
Free or reduced rate air.

#### **ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1 - AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Auckland is called the City of Sails, and visitors flying in will see why. On the East Coast is the Waitemata Harbour—a Māori word meaning sparkling waters which is bordered by the Hauraki Gulf, an aquatic playground peppered with small islands where many Aucklanders can be found "mucking around in boats." Not surprisingly, Auckland has some 70,000 boats. About one in four households in Auckland has a boat of some kind, and there are 102 beaches within an hour's drive; during the week many are quite empty. Even the airport is by the water; it borders the Manukau Harbour, which also takes its name from the Māori language and means solitary bird. According to Māori tradition, the Auckland isthmus was originally peopled by a race of giants and fairy folk. When Europeans arrived in the early 19th century, however, the Ngāti-Whātua tribe was firmly in control of the region.



### DAY 2 - TAURANGA, BAY OF PLENTY, NEW ZEALAND

The population center of the Bay of Plenty, Tauranga is one of New Zealand's fastest-growing cities. Along with its neighbor, Whakatane, this seaside city claims to be one of the country's sunniest towns. Unlike most local towns, Tauranga doesn't grind to a halt in the offseason, because it has one of the busiest ports in the country, and the excellent waves at the neighboring beach resort of Mount Maunganui—just across Tauranga's harbor bridge—always draw surfers and holiday folk.

#### DAY 3 - DAY AT SEA

#### DAY 4 - PICTON, NEW ZELAND

The maritime township of Picton (population 4,000) lies at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound and is the arrival point for ferries from the North Island, as well as a growing number of international cruise ships. It plays a major role in providing services and transport by water taxi to a multitude of remote communities in the vast area of islands, peninsulas, and waterways that make up the Marlborough Sounds Maritime Park. There's plenty to do in town, with crafts markets in summer, historical

sights to see, and walking tracks to scenic lookouts over the sounds. The main foreshore is lined by London Quay, which looks up Queen Charlotte Sound to the bays beyond. High Street runs down to London Quay from the hills, and between them these two streets make up the center of town.



#### DAY 5 - CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

Your initial impression of Christchurch will likely be one of a genteel, green city. Joggers loop through shady Hagley Park, and punters ply the narrow Avon River, which bubbles between banks lined with willows and oaks. With a population approaching 350,000, Christchurch is the largest South Island city, and the second-largest in the country. It is also the forward supply depot for the main U.S. Antarctic base at McMurdo Sound. The face of Christchurch is changing rapidly, fueled by both internal and international immigration. The Māori community, although still below the national average in size, is growing. Ngai Tahu, the main South Island Māori tribe, settled Treaty of Waitangi claims in 1997 and have been investing in tourism ventures. Old wooden bungalows are making way for town houses, the arts scene is flourishing, and the city's university attracts cutting-edge technology companies.

#### DAY 6 - DAY AT SEA

# DAY 7 - STEWART ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Stewart Island is home to New Zealand's newest national park, Rakiura National Park. The third and most southerly of New Zealand's main islands, Stewart Island is separated from the South Island by the 24-km (15-miles) Foveaux Strait. Its original Māori name, Te Punga O Te Waka a Maui, means "the anchor stone of Maui's canoe." Māori mythology says the island's landmass held the god Maui's canoe secure while he and his crew raised the great fish—the North Island. Today the island is more commonly referred to by its other Māori name, Rakiura, which means "the land of the glowing skies." This refers to the spectacular sunrises and sunsets and to the southern lights, or aurora australis. The European name of Stewart Island dates back to 1809. It

memorializes an officer William W. Stewart on an early sealing vessel, the Pegasus, who was the first to chart the island. The island covers some 1,700 square km (650 square miles).



# DAY 8 – CRUISING FIORDLAND, NEW ZEALAND – MILFORD AND DOUBTFUL SOUNDS

New Zealand fiord country along with Fiordland National Park is one of New Zealand's premier attractions. Incredibly beautiful, wild and remote, the region is an intriguing combination of rugged mountain ranges, dense rainforest, solitary alpine lakes, sparkling rivers and splashing waterfalls. Much of Fiordland is virtually unexplored wilderness and still the habitat of rare birds. As the ship cruises the beautiful Doubtful, Dusky and Milford Sounds, experience the majestic fiordland of South Island's western coast. Captain James Cook sailed along this coast in 1770 and again in 1773, when he anchored at Dusky Sound for a rest and ship repair. Doubtful Sound is one of the region's most majestic fiords. It is ten times larger than Milford Sound. As the ship cruises into Hall Arm, gaze at vertical cliffs and mighty waterfalls plunging over sheer rock faces. In fine weather, mountains and greenery are reflected in the protected waters of the fiord.

# DAYS 9 & 10 - DAYS AT SEA



DAY 11 - BURNIE, AUSTRALIA

Burnie overlooks Emu Bay, on the north-west coast. This proudly industrial city is Australia's fifth largest container port and a vibrant place to visit. Burnie was once surrounded by

dense rainforest, but this has slowly disappeared, while fortunes were made felling and milling timber. The paper and pulp mill on the city's outskirts operated from 1938 to 1998. Burnie was first explored by Bass and Flinders and was known as Emu Bay when it was settled by the Van Diemen's Land Company in 1827. Today, Burnie has a population of almost 19,000. Burnie experiences temperate conditions, with an average maximum of 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 degrees Celsius) in January and 56.5 degrees Fahrenheit (13.5) degrees Celsius in June.

#### **DAY 12- MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**

Consistently rated among the "world's most livable cities" in quality-of-life surveys, Melbourne is built on a coastal plain at the top of the giant horseshoe of Port Phillip Bay. The city center is an orderly grid of streets where the state parliament, banks, multinational corporations, and splendid Victorian buildings that sprang up in the wake of the gold rush now stand. This is Melbourne's heart, which you can explore at a leisurely pace in a couple of days. In Southbank, one of the newer precincts south of the city center, the Southgate development of bars, restaurants, and shops has refocused Melbourne's vision on the Yarra River. Once a blighted stretch of factories and run-down warehouses, the southern bank of the river is now a vibrant, exciting part of the city, and the river itself is finally taking its rightful place in Melbourne's psyche.

#### **DAYS 13 & 14 - DAYS AT SEA**

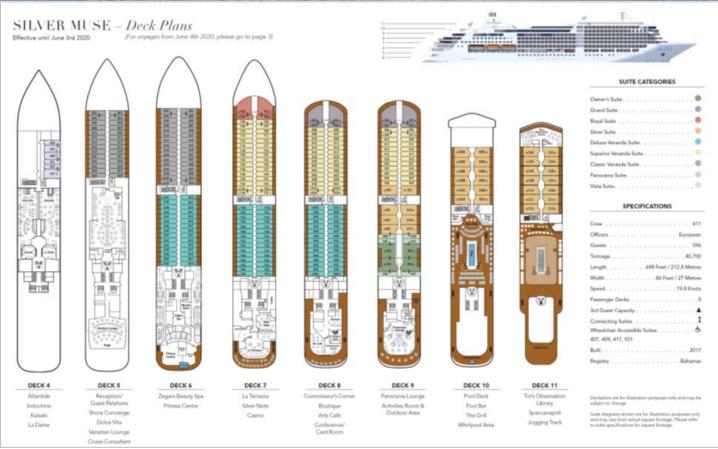


# DAY 15 - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Sydney belongs to the exclusive club of cities that generate excitement. At the end of a marathon flight there's renewed vitality in the cabin as the plane circles the city, where thousands of yachts are suspended on the dark water and the sails of the Opera House glisten in the distance. Blessed with dazzling beaches and a sunny climate, Sydney is among the most beautiful cities on the planet. With 4.6 million people, Sydney is the biggest and most cosmopolitan city in Australia.

Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.





2020 RATES	DEC 20 2019		MAR 17 2020	
SUITE	To Sydney 15 Days - W/Air	To Melbourne 13 Days - No Air	To Sydney 15 Days - W/Air	To Melbourne 13 Days - No Air
Vista	\$9,090	\$5,661	\$7,200	\$5,166
Panorama	\$9,900	\$6,219	\$7,650	\$5,634
Classic Veranda	\$10,620	\$6,714	\$8,100	\$6,093
Superior Veranda	\$11,610	\$7,074	\$8,460	\$6,399
Deluxe Veranda	\$12,060	\$7,425	\$8,730	\$6,633
Silver	\$17,370	\$11,529	\$13,410	\$11,106
Royal	\$20,790	\$14,139	\$16,020	\$13,581
Grand	\$22,590	\$15,561	\$17,460	\$14,967
Owners	\$25,650	\$17,892	\$20,430	\$17,199

Rates are per person, based on Double Occupancy, and Include all beverages onboard, gratuities to crew, taxes and fees. Excursions are optional, at additional



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