

WASHINGTON AND LEE
UNIVERSITY

Lifelong Learning

**Southern
AUSTRALIA
Sojourn**

Sydney–Tasmania–Adelaide–Kangaroo Island–Melbourne

March 8–22, 2027



Dear W&L alumni, parents, and friends,

Experience the essence of southern Australia on an **exclusive journey for Washington & Lee travelers**, where glittering harbors meet wild coastlines and vineyard-draped hills, revealing a land of striking contrasts and remarkable beauty. Explore the country's most celebrated cities—**Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Tasmania's capital, Hobart**—each offering its own blend of art, architecture, and culinary excellence. Then venture beyond the urban centers to discover some of Australia's most extraordinary natural landscapes, including Sydney's golden beaches, the towering sea cliffs of the **Tasman Peninsula**, and the renowned wine hill country of South Australia's **McLaren Vale**. We will also visit **Kangaroo Island**, where koalas doze in eucalyptus trees and sea lions bask along pristine beaches. These places, and the experiences offered within them, reveal a nation that is both deeply sophisticated and absolutely wild at heart.

This 15-day journey is designed for ease, comfort, and enrichment at every step. Seamless flights connect each destination, with all logistics, excursions, and gratuities thoughtfully included. March offers the ideal season to explore, when early autumn brings warm days, crisp evenings, and clear skies. With a maximum guest capacity of only 30, our journey promises an intimate and authentic perspective on this breathtaking region of the world which is increasingly a bucket-list destination for many. We encourage you to reserve your space now. To make your reservation, please visit: go.wlu.edu/australia or email lifelong@wlu.edu. You may also call (540) 458-8723.

Your Lifelong Learning Team,



James Lambert
Director



Lisa D'Amelio
Associate Director



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Office Manager





TASMAN PENINSULA



Itinerary

March 8–10

HOME / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Depart on independent flights bound for Sydney, Australia, crossing the International Date Line en route. Arrive and transfer to your centrally located hotel. Stretch your legs this afternoon on an optional guided walk around your neighborhood, **The Rocks**, Sydney's oldest district, where narrow lanes and sandstone cottages tell stories of early settlers. Gather this evening for a **festive welcome dinner** where fresh food and Australian wine set the tone for your journey.

INTERCONTINENTAL SYDNEY (D)

March 11

SYDNEY

Enjoy a **panoramic orientation tour** of Sydney including Mrs. Macquarie's Chair for one of the best views of the city. Enjoy a **guided tour of the Sydney Opera House**, a global symbol of modern Australia. Enjoy lunch along the waterfront with views of Circular Quay and passing ferries. This afternoon, embark on an Aboriginal heritage tour of the **Royal Botanic Garden** to learn how the Gadigal people used native plants for food and medicine. The remainder of the day is free for individual pursuits, or optionally add a ticket to a performance at the one-of-a-kind Opera House (at additional cost).

INTERCONTINENTAL SYDNEY (B,L)

March 12

SYDNEY

Begin the day at the **Art Gallery of New South Wales**, showcasing Aboriginal, Australian, and international masterpieces in a striking harbor-side setting. Then board one of the world's most scenic urban boat rides, **cruising Sydney Harbor**, where sweeping views of the Opera House,



TASMANIA - MONA



TASMANIAN DEVIL

Harbor Bridge, and city skyline gradually give way to open ocean and dramatic headlands. Also explore the picturesque coastal town of Manly before returning by ferry for a free evening in Sydney.

INTERCONTINENTAL SYDNEY (B,L)

March 13

SYDNEY / HOBART, TASMANIA

Fly this morning to Hobart, Tasmania's charming waterfront capital. Begin with a guided tour of the city along with a visit to its festive **Salamanca Market**, a Tasmanian Saturday tradition since 1972. Browse stalls of local crafts, art, and gourmet produce amid live music. Regroup this afternoon to cruise up the Derwent River to **the Museum of Old and New Art (MONA)**—Australia's most provocative art museum with works designed to challenge and inspire.

MACQ 01 HOTEL (B,L,D)

March 14

TASMANIA

Discover Tasmania's inspiring wildlife conservation efforts at **Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary**. Led by passionate keepers, wander through tranquil bushland to hand-feed kangaroos, meet cuddly koalas and wombats, and encounter the island's most famous resident—the **Tasmanian Devil**. Continue to Mount Wellington for sweeping views over Hobart and the Southern Ocean, passing through forests and alpine landscapes. The rest of the day is free to explore Hobart independently and enjoy the city's many fine restaurants.

MACQ 01 HOTEL (B)

March 15

TASMANIA

Travel along Tasmania's scenic east coast to the **UNESCO World Heritage Site of Port Arthur**,



ADELAIDE



MELBOURNE



KANGAROO ISLAND



MELBOURNE



KANGAROO ISLAND

where the striking coastal landscape contrasts with the site's poignant convict history. After lunch, set out on a **Tasman Island Cruise**, skimming beneath towering cliffs and spotting wildlife along this rugged coastline.

MACQ 01 HOTEL (B,L,D)

March 16
HOBART / ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

Depart this morning for Adelaide, known for its gracious boulevards, surrounding parklands, and thriving food and wine culture. On arrival, travel to the **McLaren Vale wine region**, one of Australia's oldest and most innovative viticultural areas, where Mediterranean climate, coastal breezes, and diverse soils produce world-class wines.

THE PLAYFORD ADELAIDE (B,L,D)

March 17
ADELAIDE / KANGAROO ISLAND

Explore Adelaide's famed local markets including the lively **Rundle Street Market**, where multicultural food stalls, fresh produce, and artisan goods reflect the city's creative and culinary diversity. Travel to the coast and cross by ferry to **Kangaroo Island**, famed for its protected wilderness, low development, and extraordinary concentration of native wildlife.

MERCURE KANGAROO ISLAND LODGE (B,D)

March 18
KANGAROO ISLAND

Explore the island's wild western reaches in **Flinders Chase National Park** where windswept headlands, dense bushland, and sculpted rock formations create a unique landscape. Visit pristine beaches, including the turquoise water and white sand of Stokes Bay, and savor a farm-to-table lunch highlighting fresh seafood, local meats, and island-grown produce. Return to the lodge for an evening at leisure.

MERCURE KANGAROO ISLAND LODGE (B,L)

March 19
KANGAROO ISLAND

Start the day with a guided walk at Seal Bay, home to a colony of Australian sea lions that love to bask on the beach. Continue through **eucalyptus forests and open grasslands where kangaroos, wallabies and abundant birdlife** are common, and meet local producers, such as honey and seafood specialists, who reflect the island's strong conservation ethic and self-sustaining community.

MERCURE KANGAROO ISLAND LODGE (B,L,D)

March 20
KANGAROO ISLAND / MELBOURNE

Fly from Kangaroo Island to Melbourne, Australia's cultural and culinary capital. Immerse yourself in Melbourne's laneways and arcades, alive with boutiques, cafés, and bold street art that reflect the city's creative edge. This evening, learn why Melbourne became a gastronomic hub and taste the range of flavors during a **progressive dinner walk to several landmark restaurants**.

PARK HYATT MELBOURNE (B,D)

March 21
MELBOURNE

Spend the morning exploring Melbourne's arts precinct at **Federation Square**, with an interpretive visit to the **Koorie Heritage Trust** and time at the **Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia**, highlighting Indigenous history, culture, and art. Lunch and the remainder of the afternoon are free for individual pursuits. Gather this evening for a **festive farewell dinner** celebrating your Australian adventure.

PARK HYATT MELBOURNE (B,D)

March 22
MELBOURNE / HOME

After breakfast, transfer to the Melbourne airport for flights home.

(B)



SYDNEY

Program Rates (per person)

Double Occupancy	\$11,990
Single Supplement	\$3,700
On-Tour Air (economy class)	~\$1,450 (estimated)

General Information

Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each traveler prior to participation on the tour.

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including **Twelve hotel nights** - Comprehensive program of briefings, presentations, and discussions - Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates - **All gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers for group activities** - Entrance fees - Welcome and farewell gala dinners - **House wine and beer with all group lunches and dinners** - Water on motorcoaches - Comprehensive packet of pre-departure information - Professional tour manager throughout the program

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare - Three on-tour flights (actual cost will be finalized closer to departure) - Passport/visa expenses - Medical expenses, immunizations, and COVID-19 testing if required at the time of travel - Travel and trip cancellation insurance - Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days - Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options - Airline baggage charges - Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted - Laundry or dry cleaning - Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges - Room service - Other items of a personal nature

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. Daily activities can involve up to two miles of walking, over sometimes rough terrain; often elevators are unavailable and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that they do not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. For ease, please reserve your space at go.wlu.edu/australia or call (540) 458-8723. Within two business days after receiving your reservation, Criterion Travel will contact you to confirm your reservation and collect the deposit. We accept personal checks, payable to Criterion Travel, as well as VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover. Reservations will be processed in order of

receipt. Final payment deadline is December 8, 2026. Final payment may be made by check, wire transfer or credit card (credit card payments will incur a processing fee of 2%).

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by the W&L Office of Lifelong Learning. Cancellations are subject to the following refund schedule: within 30 days of booking, refundable less a \$250 per person administrative fee; Up to 6 months prior to departure, refundable less a \$500 per person administrative fee; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After final payment date (December 8, 2026), all payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. NOTE: Neither the W&L Office of Lifelong Learning nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

RESPONSIBILITY

W&L Office of Lifelong Learning, Washington and Lee University, and Criterion Travel, its officers and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (hereafter referred to as "the Organizers") act only as agents for the passenger with respect to the travel services on this program, including but not limited to transportation, ship arrangements, food services, etc. The Organizers are not responsible for any injury, loss, accident, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, negligence, acts of God or force majeure, illness, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart on time. If delayed past tour dates due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meals costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this program at any time. Passenger certifies not to have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers. We reserve the right to change the itinerary, trip features, or accommodations at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, as deemed necessary by program staff. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. No refund will be made for any unused portion of the program. The Organizers do not accept liability for any airline carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket connected with the tour. Upon payment of their deposit, tour participants indicate acceptance of the above Terms and Conditions.

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