

## DISCOVER BRISBANE

### GREAT SOUTHERN

BRISBANE TO MELBOURNE

DEPARTING FRIDAY

(JANUARY & FEBRUARY)

6 Days / 5 Nights

Combine premium food and wine with stunning natural landscapes and some of the country's top cultural icons on this five-night tour of Australia's south-east. Enjoy the spectacular views and ancient rainforests of Mt Tamborine with much more to explore in and around the vibrant river city, Brisbane, before travelling in style on the Great Southern from Brisbane to Melbourne.

#### INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights' accommodation in Brisbane including breakfast daily
- Full day Explore Mt Tamborine tour
- 2 nights aboard the Great Southern, Brisbane to Melbourne, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Northern New South Wales, Hunter Valley and Melbourne
- 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the beauty of Mt Tamborine's ancient rainforests
- Tour the glow worm caves
- Take in breathtaking views from the iconic Scenic Lookout
- Enjoy a special beachside dining experience on the northern New South Wales coast
- Savour the flavours and sights of the picturesque Hunter Valley or Port Stephens
- Immerse yourself in cosmopolitan Melbourne

#### DAY 1 – ARRIVE BRISBANE

Welcome to Brisbane. After checking into your accommodation, your connection with this vibrant city begins, with a day to explore at your leisure. The Queensland capital has come of age, with elegant 19<sup>th</sup>-century sandstone buildings sitting alongside superb modern architecture and a cultural precinct lining the banks of the Brisbane River.

**OVERNIGHT:** 3 nights Sofitel Brisbane Central

#### DAY 2 – BRISBANE

Your time in Brisbane continues today, with a day to explore at your leisure. Perhaps catch a City Cat and take in the city from the water or venture across to South Bank, Brisbane's premier lifestyle and cultural destination. It's the perfect place to relax and unwind. (B)

#### DAY 3 – MT TAMBORINE

Today, visit Mt Tamborine in the Gold Coast hinterland. The mountain has spectacular views and ancient rainforests which you can explore at your own pace at Skywalk. Enjoy the native flora and fauna as you walk above the rainforest canopy. Visit the Glow Worm conservation caves and learn about these fascinating creatures. You'll then have time to explore the boutique shops on Gallery Walk from arts and craft, fashion to fudge, to honey and Australia's most awarded distillery, Tamborine Mountain Distillery. Your day will conclude at Fortitude Brewery, where you can enjoy a meal (own expense) or drink at Bush Turkey Bistro or visit the on-site cheese shop. (B)

#### DAY 4 – BOARD THE GREAT SOUTHERN IN BRISBANE

Today, you'll set off from Brisbane on your adventure covering Australia's south-east. Settle into your cabin and prepare to savour lunch on board and spend a relaxing afternoon admiring the views before arriving in Coffs Harbour. As the sun dips beneath the horizon, enjoy drinks and canapes on the beach at Charlesworth Bay before a unique outdoor dinner, where you'll feast on local produce and fresh seafood paired with fine wines. After a few leisurely hours, you'll reboard the train and set off for your first night on board. (BL,D)

**OVERNIGHT:** 2 nights Great Southern

#### DAY 5 – GREAT SOUTHERN, HUNTER REGION

Start the day with breakfast on board before setting off on your choice of Off Train Experiences. You may choose to meander through the picturesque vineyards of the Hunter Valley, Australia's oldest wine region, or explore Port Stephens by land or sea. Alternatively, explore Newcastle and discover the vibrant mix of old and new in the beautiful coastal city.

Late afternoon, return to the train along with the rest of the guests to enjoy a regionally inspired meal and relaxing time on board before retiring for the night. (B,L,D)



JOURNEY BEYOND

GREAT SOUTHERN

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### **DAY 6 – GREAT SOUTHERN, MELBOURNE**

After enjoying a delicious breakfast on board and a relaxing start to the day travelling through Victoria's high country, you'll have a choice of Off Train Experiences. Visit cosmopolitan Melbourne to find out why it's considered the cultural and sporting capital of Australia. Explore the oldest and most-visited art collection in Australia at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) or visit the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). If you're a history buff, head to the Old Melbourne Gaol. Lunch is at Eureka 89, where you'll dine on a beautifully curated menu showcasing local and seasonal produce with spectacular views over the city.

After lunch, your journey aboard the Great Southern comes to an end. (B,L)