

FSB's Connect Club *presents...*

Australia's Outback to New Zealand's South Island

with Optional 3-Night Fiji Post Tour Extension

January 24 – February 13, 2023



Book Now
& Save
\$250
Per Person

SPECIAL TRAVEL PRESENTATION

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 Time: 2:00 PM

FSB's Connect Club, Elmcrest Country Club, 1 Zach Johnson Dr N E, Cedar Rapids, IA



For more information contact
Kathy Leeseekamp, Connect Club Director
FSB's Connect Club
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kathyleeekamp@fsbmail.net

21 Days 28 Meals: 18 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 8 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Sydney, Sydney Opera House, Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Alice Springs, Uluru, Melbourne, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Mt. Cook National Park, Christchurch

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Days 1, 2	Overnight Flight
Days 3 – 6	Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, Sydney
Days 7 – 9	Bailey Hotel by Crystalbrook, Cairns
Days 10, 11	Doubletree by Hilton Alice Springs, Alice Springs
Day 12	Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock
Days 13, 14	Mantra on Little Bourke, Melbourne
Days 15 – 17	Novotel Queenstown Lakeside, Queenstown
Day 18	The Hermitage, Mount Cook Natl. Park
Days 19, 20	Novotel Christchurch Cathedral Square, Christchurch

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Collette's Flagship: Collette's tours open the door to a world of amazing destinations. Marvel at must-see sights, sample regional cuisine, stay in centrally located hotels and connect with new and captivating cultures. These itineraries offer an inspiring and easy way to experience the world, where an expert guide takes care of all the details.

Day 1 – 2: January 24 – 25, 2023 Depart from Home Cross the International Dateline (skipping a day ahead) for an adventure discovering the treasures of Australia and New Zealand, including their unparalleled beauty and captivating culture.

Day 3: Thursday, January 26, 2023 Arrive Sydney, Australia Your tour opens today in Sydney, perhaps one of the friendliest metropolis in the world.

Day 4: Friday, January 27, 2023 Sydney Enjoy time to get to know the place where your journey begins. Tonight join your fellow travelers and toast to the start of your adventure down under during dinner in lively Darling Harbour. (B, D)

Day 5: Saturday, January 28, 2023 Sydney See where English colonists first settled during a city tour of Sydney, featuring Kings Cross, the Harbour Bridge, Chinatown, the Rocks, Circular Quay, the Botanic Gardens, and the fashionable suburb of Darlinghurst. Take an expert-led tour of the Sydney Opera House, poised majestically on Sydney Harbour. Then, have the chance to join a special presentation at the National Opal Collection. In the evening, consider an optional dinner and engaging performance at the famous Opera House. (B)

Day 6: Sunday, January 29, 2023 Sydney Deepen your exploration of Sydney's many wonders with a day at leisure. Tonight, enjoy scenic vistas of Sydney during a delightful dinner cruise of Sydney Harbour. Marvel at the magnificent skyline and iconic attractions: the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge. (B, D)

Day 7: Monday, January 30, 2023 Sydney - Cairns Fly to Cairns, the tropical gateway to one of the world's most spectacular natural attractions – the Great Barrier Reef (UNESCO). Established as a marine park in 1975, the reef is a haven for thousands of species of sea life, as well as turtles and birds. (B, D)

Day 8: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 Cairns Soak up the tropical atmosphere – the morning is yours. Perhaps you will take an optional tour on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, taking you above the rainforest canopy for a bird's-eye view of unspoiled nature. This afternoon, visit Hartley's Crocodile Adventures to see crocodiles on a

nature cruise. Head through rainforests on boardwalks to see animals such as wild birds, reptiles, and wallabies. Visit with a koala and chat with a wildlife naturalist to learn more about these furry creatures. (B)

Day 9: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 Cairns - Great Barrier Reef - Cairns Board a glass-bottom catamaran and sail to the Low Isles to discover the aquatic realm of the Great Barrier Reef. Spend the day however you please, perhaps choosing from a selection of included activities. Maybe you'll soak up the sun on a tiny remote island,* located along the outer reef. Or, consider snorkeling in the rolling waves, uncovering a pod of vibrant sea life. You can also meet with a marine biologist or join an expert on a heritage trail walk along the island. (B, L)

Day 10: Thursday, February 2, 2023 Cairns - Alice Springs Experience the vast landscapes and tranquility of the Outback. Your flight takes you to Alice Springs, the perfect place to begin exploring this unique land. Tonight, continue your cultural immersion with a memorable bush dinner set against the backdrop of this unique desert environment. (B, D)

Day 11: Friday, February 3, 2023 Alice Springs Access the history and culture of the Arrernte Aboriginal people by enjoying a guided walk on their sacred land, followed by a talk with an Aboriginal guide. Gain insight into their cultural history and discover what makes this place so special. This afternoon, discover a more modern side to Outback living when you visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service, a lifeline to thousands across the vast terrain of Central Australia. Later, tour the Old Telegraph Station and Anzac Hill with its excellent views of Alice Springs and the surrounding area. (B)

Day 12: Saturday, February 4, 2023 Alice Springs - Uluru Traverse the "Red Centre" and head to Uluru (the Aboriginal name for Ayers Rock) in the heart of the Australian Outback. This huge monolith and the sandstone domes known as Kata Tjuta were created through upheaval and erosion. Tour the base of "the Rock," learning about its geology and significance to Aboriginal culture. Witness the changing colors of Uluru at sunset accompanied by a champagne toast. (B)

Day 13: Sunday, February 5, 2023 Uluru - Melbourne Fly to the beautiful Victorian city of Melbourne. Set upon the shores of Port Phillip Bay and the Yarra River, the city exudes a lively and cosmopolitan atmosphere. (B, D)

Day 14: Monday, February 6, 2023 Melbourne Set out on a city tour and see Fitzroy Gardens and Melbourne's bustling "laneways." Then, **it's your choice!** Enjoy free time to explore on your own -OR- visit the Melbourne Botanical Gardens and Shrine of Remembrance. With an afternoon to yourself, perhaps you will join an optional excursion to Phillip Island, home to the world's largest colony of Little Penguins, where you'll see hundreds of these birds waddle out of the sea and cross the beach to their dune burrows. (B)

Day 15: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 Melbourne - Queenstown, New Zealand Leave Australia behind and fly to Queenstown, New Zealand. One of New Zealand's most popular towns, Queenstown is nestled against a picturesque bay and snowcapped mountains. Home to ski resorts, hiking trails and an abundance of natural beauty, the city is known as the "Adventure Capital of the World." Settle into your new home for the next 3 nights. (B)

Day 16: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 Queenstown - Milford Sound - Queenstown Soak in the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley as you travel through an ancient beech forest via the Homer Tunnel. Cruise the Milford Sound and see why this fjord is one of the most visited sights on the South Island. Following the cruise, consider returning to Queenstown via a short optional flight (weather permitting) for spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps. (B, L)



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Double \$9,549; Double \$9,299*
 Single \$11,699; Single \$11,449;
 Triple \$9,439 Triple \$9,189

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For bookings made after Jul 27, 2022 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Cedar Rapids Airport, Inter-flights from Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport, Australia, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers and Gratuities

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$449 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from CID

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

Day 17: Thursday, February 9, 2023 Queenstown Enjoy a day at leisure. Shop in the bustling village center or enjoy an optional and exhilarating jet boat ride on the Shotover River. (B)

Day 18: Friday, February 10, 2023 Queenstown - Mt. Cook National Park Set off for the 19th-century settlement of Arrowtown, founded in the gold fever. Follow the Kawarau River and cross Lindis Pass before arriving in New Zealand's most famous national park – Mt. Cook. Savor some free time in this Alpine paradise. You may choose to take a nature walk or simply meditate on the beauty of the Southern Alps. (B, D)

Day 19: Saturday, February 11, 2023 Mt. Cook National Park - Christchurch Depart for Christchurch this morning and pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve. A leader in the conservation of New Zealand species, Willowbank offers the chance to view New Zealand's "Big 5" up close and personal. Later, join a local Kiwi family for a home hosted dinner. (B, D)

Day 20: Sunday, February 12, 2023 Christchurch Devastated by an earthquake in early 2011, see firsthand how the "Garden City" is recreating itself during a sightseeing tour that highlights the city's magnificent gardens and elegant park district. As the day draws to a close, toast to your adventure down under at a farewell dinner with your fellow travelers. (B, D)

Day 21: Monday, February 13, 2023 Christchurch - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close, leaving you with unforgettable memories of the South Pacific. (B)

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Jul 27, 2022, valid on air inclusive packages only.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports and visas are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our guests traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Visa Requirements:

US and Canadian citizens: ETA's (Electronic Travel Authority) are required for this tour.

For your Australia ETA: Travel Agents that have access to a CRS system can process your ETA at no charge or they may call the guest's airline no earlier than 30 days prior to departure (credit card is required). If you do not have access to a CRS system, you will be supplied with an ETA form and asked to fax this information back to us 45 days prior to departure. Please send the fax in care of the Australian ETA Coordinator at fax 401-727-4745. Please include the (required) Reservation Number, Passport Number, Nationality, Date of Birth, Gender, Country of Birth, Passport Expiration Date, Family or Last Name (as shown on passport), First and/or Middle Name Given (as shown on your passport) and Issuing Authority.

For travel to New Zealand: your NZeTA must be processed in advance through the New Zealand Immigration online system by visiting <https://nzeta.immigration.govt.nz/> (approximate cost of 12 NZD) or through their mobile app NZeTA (approximate cost of 9 NZD) in addition to Tourism Levy of 35 NZD. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority.

Wildlife sightings cannot be guaranteed with the exception of visits to wildlife parks.

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1088000>

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

*For your sail to the Low Isles, there will be minimal amenities available on the island. Be sure to bring everything you may need for the day including water and a change of clothes.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.

Due to changes in air schedules while on tour, the order of days in the itinerary may change.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Due to early arrival times into some cities, rooms may not always be available for immediate check-in.

Please be aware that if your flight schedule is via Dubai or if you are stopping over in Dubai and are carrying narcotic drugs, controlled or semi-controlled drugs, then you will be required to complete an electronic form prior to entering the country, to obtain approval to carry medication. Please use the link <http://www.mohap.gov.ae/en/services/Pages/361.aspx> to view the guidelines. A user's guide is available to explain the application and the supporting documents required.

The internal flights on this program are included in the price of your tour. Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$600 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of July 20, 2022 are based upon availability. Final payment due by November 26, 2022. Deposits are refundable up until July 27, 2022.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1088000>.

You can also find this information on your tour documents.