

American Celebration of Music in New Zealand & Australia

Standard Tour #4 (11 nights/14 days)

Day 1

Depart via scheduled air service to Auckland, New Zealand

Day 2

In Transit

In transit

Day 3

Auckland

(D)

Arrive in Auckland

Meet your MCI Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a sightseeing tour of Auckland with its spectacular views of sparkling waters and the Harbour Bridge which shows you why Auckland is known as the City of Sails

Afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant

Venture up Auckland's Sky Tower, which is the tallest man-made structure in New Zealand and offers breathtaking views (weather permitting)

Return to your hotel for overnight

The Auckland region is an antipasto of environments laid out on a huge platter to make one amazing city, boasting three harbours, two mountain ranges, 48 volcanic cones and more than 50 islands. Auckland's population has just reached 1.5 million, making it by far the largest city in New Zealand, with one third of the country's entire population

Day 4

Auckland

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning masterclass

Lunch on own

Time at leisure to venture to the nearby quaint seaside township of Devonport, or explore the many Museums and Art Galleries, enjoy a Harbour Cruise on the Pride of Auckland yacht or partake in some retail therapy

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in New Zealand

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 5

Auckland / Hobbiton / Rotorua

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Excursion to the picturesque private farmland to visit the Hobbiton Movie Set from *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* film trilogies in a fascinating two-hour guided tour. The set has been completely rebuilt for *The Hobbit* and remains as it was seen in these films and *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy. During our tour we see Hobbit Holes, The Green Dragon Inn, The Mill, double arched bridge and other structures and gardens built for the films

Lunch on own



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity

Continue to Rotorua

Tonight we enjoy a step into the past and partake in a traditional Maori 'Hangi' (feast) and concert; this includes traditional song and dance followed by a 'Haka' (war dance) and viewing the Glow Worms

Rotorua is New Zealand's most dynamic thermal area, home to spurting geysers, steaming hot springs and exploding mud pools. The Maori revered this place, naming one of the most spectacular springs Wai-O-Tapu (Sacred Waters). There is nowhere else like Rotorua where you can experience the Maori culture and enjoy the scenery

Day 6

Rotorua

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

First we head up the Skyline Gondola to a high point on Mt Ngongotaha for a fun filled ride on a three-wheel cart known as the "Luge". Self-drive down over one mile of mountain side on concrete track with tunnels, spirals and awesome views over the city and lake

Lunch on own

Afternoon visit to Hell's Gate; for a Mud Bath and Sulphur Spa experience which features the geothermal mud baths that replicate the historic mud baths of 150 years ago and still uses the silky smooth geothermal grey mud from the geothermal park; and the sulphur spas that use the sulphur water from the "Hurutini" pool

Evening dinner and overnight



Day 7

Rotorua / Taupo / Hamilton

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

En route to Taupo we stop at the Waiotapu Mud Pools and Aratiatia Dam to view the flood gates opening. On our descent into Taupo we stop to see the mighty Huka Falls with optional jet boat rides available (at an additional cost)

Lunch on own

Continue to Hamilton

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in New Zealand

Evening dinner and overnight

Hamilton's main street has sprouted a sophisticated and vibrant stretch of eateries around Hood and Victoria Streets resulting in a fun place in which to stroll and enjoy the atmosphere



Day 8

Hamilton / Auckland / Sydney

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Auckland airport for flight to Sydney, Australia

Lunch on own

Upon arrival in Sydney, enjoy an orientation tour to get to know the city before transferring to your hotel for check-in

Evening dinner and overnight

Sydney is a cosmopolitan world city surrounded by iconic beaches. Sydney's laid back outdoor lifestyle and physical allure make it one of the world's easiest and most pleasant cities to visit



Day 9 **Sydney** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning masterclass

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Australia

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 10 **Sydney** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Today's sightseeing includes the Sydney Harbour Bridge and world famous Opera House. The Opera House is truly a uniquely designed building like no other in the world

Lunch on own

After spending time exploring Darling Harbour we visit the Wildlife World and Aquarium

Enjoy some time at leisure during which you may like to climb the Sydney Bridge or take in the wonderful views of Sydney Harbour on a thrilling jet boat cruise (additional cost)

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 11 **Sydney / Canberra** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Canberra

Lunch on own

During our tour of Canberra, we visit Parliament House, the Mt Ainslee lookout for wonderful views of the capital region including both the Old and New Parliament Houses, the court houses, the diplomatic area, the War Memorial, ANZAC Parade and Museum

We have a guided tour of the War Memorial Galleries which commemorate the sacrifice of Australian men and women who have served their country in times of war. The Museum has thousands of relics, artwork and personal items - from a Japanese Midget submarine which attacked Sydney in 1942 to a brooch made for a sweetheart by a soldier on a battle field

Pass Lake Pukaki and on to view Mount Cook

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Australia

Evening dinner and overnight

The capital city of Australia has national museums, tourist attractions, historical sites and many natural wonders. Canberra is a planned metropolis that architect Walter Burley Griffin envisioned as a garden city for some 25,000 people. The design was completed in 1912, and construction began in 1913. Political and economic complications prevented the city from being completed until the 1960s. Canberra is currently home to about 300,000 people

Day 12 **Canberra / Melbourne** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Melbourne

Lunch on own

Afternoon sightseeing tour to view examples of Melbourne's Victorian architecture including St Paul's Cathedral, Princess and Regent Theatres, Melbourne Town Hall, Parliament House, the Treasury Building, the Royal Exhibition Buildings and Queen Victoria Markets

Evening dinner and overnight



Day 13

Melbourne

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning masterclass

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Australia

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 14

Depart for home

(B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Depending on your flight times there may be some time at leisure for last minute sightseeing or shopping

Transfer to Melbourne's airport for return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

© Music Celebrations International

