

# Australian Outback Eclipse

November 28 - December 10, 2002

## Itinerary

*Dear Eclipse Traveler,*

*The December 4, 2002 total eclipse of the sun in Australia is unique for a number of reasons. First, the duration of totality is short, just 26-32 seconds, depending upon where you are. Second, it occurs at sunset, meaning that in cloud-free conditions, you can see the setting crescent sun dip below a stark Outback horizon just minutes after totality. Lastly, it occurs in Australia - the land of the Great Barrier Reef, Ayers Rock, marvelous dark southern skies and the famous Outback.*

*With the help of meteorologist Jay Anderson and countless others, TravelQuest has brought together all the best Australia has to offer, along with the VERY BEST PROSPECTS OF SEEING THE ECLIPSED SETTING SUN. Once again, we have determined the best location to observe the eclipse, and secured the most desirable accommodations in closest proximity to our viewing site.*

*We think this itinerary captures the heart of the Australian experience - the Outback (where you will see the eclipse), gorgeous Sydney and cosmopolitan Melbourne, the Great Barrier Reef, pristine Kangaroo Island, and Adelaide's beautiful wine-country.*

*While this is a short eclipse we hope you will take this opportunity to visit this amazing land Down Under and join us for an eclipse unlike any other you will ever experience again. Keep in mind that this is the last easily accessible total solar eclipse until March 2006. Make your plans now! Call today to reserve, (800) 830-1998*



**Aram Kaprielian**  
**President**

### **Day 1 Thu, November 28, 2002 Los Angeles - Sydney**

Afternoon departure from Los Angeles to Sydney on *Qantas Airways*, losing one day flying over the International Dateline. Travelers are encouraged to arrive in Sydney a day or two early to recover from the long flight and enjoy Sydney's attractions. Special air rates from other US cities and hotel rates in Sydney are available through TravelQuest. For details call, (800) 830-1998.

**(Meals aloft)**

### **Day 2 Fri, Nov 29 Arrive Sydney**

Evening arrival into Sydney. After clearing customs, you will be transferred to the Westin Hotel for a well-deserved nights sleep.

**Overnight:: Westin Hotel (two nights)**

**(Meals aloft)**

### **Day 3 Sat, Nov 30 Sights of Sydney**

After breakfast we'll embark on a morning tour of Sydney. We'll travel through the historical "Rocks" area, cross the Harbour and the Spit Bridges, see the famous Manly Surf Beach, and enjoy spectacular views of the Harbour from special vantage points. We'll also see Sydney's renowned city sights - The Bridge, Australia's oldest house Cadman's Cottage, the Opera House, Darling Harbour, and the infamous Kings Cross. You'll also see Bondi Beach, and the exclusive suburbs of Double Bay and Vaucluse and the trendy terrace homes of Paddington. Later, we'll board our Captain Cook Cruise, to view this beautiful city from the water, while enjoying a delicious lunch. Later, we'll gather for dinner in a restaurant overlooking Sydney Harbour.

**(BLD)**

### **Day 4 Sun, Dec 01 Cairns Rainforest**

After breakfast we will be transferred to the Sydney Airport for our flight to Cairns, home of the Great Barrier Reef. Upon arrival we will travel to Kuranda Rainforest village, where we will have lunch and enjoy free time at the arts and crafts markets. We'll return to Cairns via the famous Skyrail, the world's only Rainforest Cableway. The skyrail glides silently over the Rainforest canopy, making two stops en route, allowing you to walk through the Rainforest. This evening will be free to relax and dine with friends.

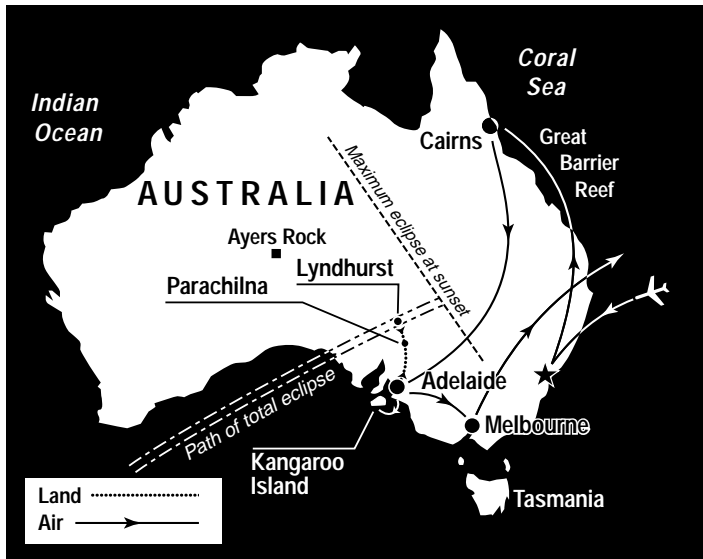
**Overnight:: Cairns Colonial Club Resort (two nights)**

**(BL)**

### **Day 5 Mon, Dec 02 Great Barrier Reef Catamaran**

This morning we'll journey north along the coast to Port Douglas enjoying spectacular views of the Coral Sea and tropical beaches. Upon arrival we'll board Quicksilver, a Wavepiercing Catamaran, for a day on the outer barrier reef. On the way out to the reef, a presentation will be made by the staff marine biologist. Morning and afternoon tea, as well as a tropical smorgasbord lunch will be served on board. There will be time to snorkel (equipment included), and view fish and coral from an underwater observatory as well as via a semi-submersible vessel. You may choose to do optional scuba diving or see the Reef by helicopter.

**(BL)**



**Day 6 Tue, Dec 03 Adelaide**

Early morning transfer to the Cairns Airport for our flight to Adelaide. Upon arrival in Adelaide, we will travel by motorcoach to the Barossa Valley, famous for its vineyards and winemaking. After a delicious lunch and wine tasting at a local winery, we will continue on to the famed Australian Outback and the beautiful Prairie Hotel in Parachilna. The Prairie Hotel perfectly blends Outback adventure with a slice of air-conditioned luxury. Enjoy dinner prepared by the hotel's award winning chef. Later this evening, join us for an Outback stargazing party.

**Overnight: Prairie Hotel - (two nights) (BLD)**

**Day 7 Wed, Dec 04 Eclipse Day in the Outback!**

After breakfast we will tour through the Flinders Mountain Ranges, watching wildlife come in to water at the meandering Nilpena Springs, and view relics of the area's aboriginal and pastoral heritage. After lunch, we will proceed to our eclipse viewing area in Lyndhurst with plenty of time to prepare for the eclipse. Our motorcoach will be on standby in the unlikely event of cloudy weather. Latitude and longitude for Lyndhurst: 30'28" S and 138'35" E.

1st contact:	18:43:13 local daylight time
2nd contact:	19:41:08
3rd contact:	19:41:34
4th contact	None, the sun will have set.
Sunset:	20:06
Duration of totality:	26 seconds

On our way back to the hotel after the eclipse, we'll stop for dinner "under the southern stars." Join us for an optional stargazing party at the hotel. **(BLD)**

**Day 8 Thu, Dec 05 Adelaide**

After breakfast, our coach will take us to Adelaide for a brief city sightseeing tour, traveling along North Terrace, which is the cultural boulevard of the city, and on to Montefiore Hill for great views of the city. We'll have a private lunch at the South Australian Museum and then enjoy a short tour of the Aboriginal section of the museum. This evening, enjoy Adelaide as you wish. **Overnight: Holiday Inn Adelaide (two nights) (BL)**

**Day 9 Fri, Dec 06 Kangaroo Island**

This morning we'll transfer to Adelaide Airport for our short flight to Kangaroo Island, to enjoy a full day tour of this magical island preserve. You'll have an opportunity to walk in the wild with seals on the beach, view koalas in their natural habitat and see unusual rock formations and other wildlife. A memorable barbecue lunch will be served. After your all day tour we will fly back to Adelaide for an evening of exploring on our own. **(BL)**

**Day 10 Sat, Dec 07 Melbourne**

After breakfast we'll transfer to Adelaide Airport for our flight to Melbourne. Upon arrival, we'll take a city tour including spectacular views of the city from the newly completed Bolte Bridge, Colonial Stadium, The Shrine of Remembrance, the Cathedrals, Collins Street, State Parliament House - a magnificent example of Victorian architecture -and the city's famous parks and gardens.

**Overnight: Park Hyatt Hotel - (three nights) (B)**

**Day 11 Sun, Dec 08 Great Ocean Road**

Today, we'll depart Melbourne for a full day tour down the Great Ocean Road, a portion of which was built as a memorial to those who died during the First World War. Along the way you'll marvel at the huge cliffs, roaring seas, tranquil coves and swimming beaches. The highlight of today's journey is the sight of the "twelve apostles" grand sandstone cones emerging from the sea. **(BL)**

**Day 12 Mon, Dec 09 Free Day in Melbourne**

Your day is entirely free to enjoy the sights and sounds of Melbourne. Take in an optional sightseeing tour, or spend the day shopping or relaxing. Join us this evening for a special farewell dinner. **(BD)**

**Day 13 Tue, Dec 10 Melbourne - Home**

Late morning transfer to the Melbourne Airport for your flight home or to other destinations. We will gain our day 'back' arriving earlier in Los Angeles than the time we left Melbourne! *If you wish to add extra nights in Melbourne, visit famous Ayers Rock, or travel to Tasmania or New Zealand, call TravelQuest (800) 830-1998.* **(B)**

To reserve, call (800) 830-1998

## Tour cost

\$4530 per person, double occupancy. Add \$1246 for single occupancy. *There are no single accommodations available at the Prairie Hotel. Singles will room together those two nights.* For triple occupancy, call for details.

All quoted prices effective at time of publication. While not expected, itinerary and prices are subject to change.

## Tour cost includes

- All Inter-Australia flights, based upon a rate of \$850, which is subject to change.
- Eleven nights accommodations in Australia, including two nights eclipse accommodations at the Prairie Outback Hotel.
- All meals, tax and tips per itinerary.
- All ground transportation within Australia.
- Services of a local guide throughout the tour.
- TravelQuest study-leader, stargazing and eclipse lectures.
- All excursions and admissions per itinerary.

## Not included

- International air to Australia. Call TravelQuest for best available rates - (800) 830-1998. First and Business Class quotes available upon request. Frequent fliers may book their own air and meet the group in Sydney.
- Meals not specified in itinerary.
- Passport and visa fees.
- Gratuity to guide (\$5-7 per person, per day).
- Items of a personal nature.

## Payments & Terms

A \$900 per person advance payment, along with a completed reservation form secures your space. A second payment of \$600 is due March 28, 2002. Final balance is due August 28, 2001.

For cancellations made through March 28, 2002, there will be a \$100 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations made between March 29 - August 28, 2002, there will be an \$900 cancellation fee. There are no refunds after August 28, 2002. Air cancellation terms are additional.

*We highly recommend optional trip cancellation/medical insurance.  
Application forms will be provided with initial invoice.*

## Trip Highlights

- The very best prospects of seeing the eclipsed setting sun in all of Australia.
- Wake up eclipse day only one hour from our eclipse viewing site.
- Exclusive TravelQuest astronomy lectures.
- Two nights of dark Southern stargazing in the remote Outback.
- Unique natural wonders of Australia - the Great Barrier Reef, Kangaroo Island and the famous Outback.
- Top quality hotels and attractions.
- TravelQuest's reputation for quality and attention to detail.

## What to Expect

Australia is large enough to have significant variations in weather. We will travel from the tropical Barrier Reef to the hot, dry Outback. December is early-summer in Australia. The dry southern coastal region experiences daytime highs in the 80s, with lows in the 50s. Our Outback eclipse viewing site will have daytime highs in the 100's - similar to those encountered in southern Turkey during the 1999 eclipse. The tropical northeastern region experiences daytime highs in the 80-90s, with lows in the 70s, and a likelihood of rain. There are no current health alerts for travel to Australia. For up to date health information visit the Centers for Disease Control <[www.cdc.gov/travel/#Geographic](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/#Geographic)>.

Aside from extreme heat in the Outback, this is not a strenuous trip. There will be optional opportunities for hikes and walks throughout the tour.

For reservations call:

*"Journeys for Inquisitive Minds"*

**TravelQuest**

INTERNATIONAL

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## Reservation Form

# AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK ECLIPSE

NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 10, 2002

\* Keep a copy of this entire page for your records \*

Passport name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred name \_\_\_\_\_

Passport name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone \_\_\_\_\_ Eve. phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$900 per person):

\_\_\_ Check, payable to TravelQuest International or (circle one): MasterCard VISA Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we prefer (where available): \_\_\_ One bed \_\_\_ Two beds

\_\_\_ I am traveling alone and would like to share a double room (not guaranteed).

### VERY IMPORTANT CONSUMER DISCLOSURE NOTICE

#### Please read this notice. It constitutes part of your contract for travel related services.

TravelQuest, its agents (collective) and sponsoring organizations act only as agent for the suppliers of transportation, accommodations, food and other goods and services provided to the participant. All arrangements to transport, accommodate and other services are made upon the express condition that TravelQuest and its agents shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damage, injury, or loss to person or property, accident, delay or irregularity of any kind occasioned by reason of any act or omission beyond its control, including without limitation, any act or negligence or breach of contract of any third party, such as an airline, cruise line, train, hotel, restaurant, ground handler, etc., who is to or does supply any goods or services to the tour.

Without limiting the foregoing, TravelQuest and its agents are not responsible for any loss or expenses due to delay or change in schedule, overbooking of accommodations, default of any third parties, sickness, weather, strikes, acts of God, acts of terrorism, war, quarantine, theft, criminal activity or for any other cause beyond our control.

TravelQuest reserves the right to change the itinerary of this tour without prior notice. If for any reason the tour is canceled by TravelQuest, TravelQuest shall incur no liability beyond the refund of all tour participants' deposits received.

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Any litigation concerning this tour shall be brought in the state of Arizona. Changes in this Responsibility Clause can be made only in writing and signed by an officer of TravelQuest. Deposits paid by tour participant indicate acceptance of the above terms and conditions.