



SPARK TRAVEL



| 6 Day

CANBERRA FLORIADE & BOWRAL 'TULIP TIME' FESTIVAL

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Suite 1, Ground Floor
29 King William Street
Adelaide, SA 5000

| **Sunday 29 September 2024**

| Fully Escorted From Adelaide

| Return Home Transfers

| Flight Adelaide/Sydney/Canberra/Adelaide

| Lake Burley Griffin Cruise

| Farewell High Tea

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Hughes Home Pick Up Service (zoned area).
- Fly to Sydney and return from Canberra with Virgin Australia.
- 1 night at the lovely Springs Resort in Mittagong and 4 nights at the Alpha Hotel at Tuggeranong in Canberra.
- Take in Australia's Premier Celebration of Spring! The Canberra Floriade held in Commonwealth Park, is a nationally and internationally recognised event and the largest festival of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Delightful Bowral Tulip Time Festival at the fabulous Corbett Gardens.
- Explore the Bradman Museum and International Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Visit the unique cool climate garden at Red Cow Farm, Sutton Forest.
- Historic Berrima and the old Courthouse, in 1838 the scene of Australia's first ever 'trial by jury.'
- Visit the many exhibitions at the Australian War Memorial and stay for the moving 'Last Post.'
- Sights of Canberra include visits to magnificent Tulip Top Gardens, Cockington Green miniature village, orientation tour of Canberra, guided tour of Parliament House, the Museum of Australia and the National Portrait Gallery.
- Visit the National Arboretum and view the amazing National Bonsai and Penjing Collection.
- Visit to the fascinating National Gallery of Australia with the special exhibition 'Gauguin's World.'
- Delightful cruise to see the sights of Canberra from Lake Burley Griffin.
- Sumptuous farewell High Tea at the historic art deco Canberra Hyatt Hotel.



NOTES:

****Health and Fitness:** To assist us when booking, please advise your Spark Travel consultant if you have any special needs such as mobility, dietary etc. A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. You will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided and you must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. If you are unable to manage on your own, it will be necessary to be accompanied by another person who is fit and able to assist you in day to day tasks and capable of providing the assistance required. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information in writing.

****Tour extensions** subject to availability and extension booking criteria.

****It should be noted** that to be fair to all passengers, specific coach seats cannot be reserved.

****Please note** that on tours where flights are involved, the seating within the confines of the group is computer allocated alphabetically by the airlines concerned and beyond the control of Spark Travel.

HUGHES TRANSFERS TO AND FROM YOUR HOME:

Hughes transfers apply in the zoned area. These transfers may be available at additional cost to passengers who live outside the zoned area - please ask your Spark Travel consultant.

'HUGHES HOME PICK UP SERVICE' will call you **two (2) days** before the commencement of the tour to confirm the time they will be arriving at your home. **If you have missed the call, please contact Spark Travel (08) 8876 5121 a day prior to departure** for your pickup time. **If you reside at a retirement village, please ensure Hughes have clear instructions from you as to means of entry and directions to find your home. Also, if you are out of zone there will be an additional payment due and this should be made at the time of booking.** For safety reasons, suitcases should weigh no more than 20kgs. The Hughes home pick up service only applies to scheduled tour departure and return tour dates. Those passengers wishing to extend their tours will be responsible for their own transfers.

ITINERARY:

DAY 01 - SUNDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER - ADELAIDE/SYDNEY/MITTAGONG - SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS, BRADMAN MUSEUM & INTERNATIONAL CRICKET HALL OF FAME, RED COW FARM GARDENS

Meet your Tour Manager at **Adelaide Airport** departure hall and check in for your **Virgin Australia** flight to **Sydney**.

You will need to produce **photo ID** in order to obtain your boarding pass. Also please ensure you do not have any sharp objects in your hand baggage such as nail files, scissors, tail combs etc. (These are OK in your suitcase). Bottled water is fine for domestic flights.

06.00am Depart **Adelaide Airport** on board flight **VA401** to **Sydney**, arriving at **08.20am**. On arrival into Sydney we collect our luggage and join our 5 star touring coach for the journey to **Mittagong via Bowral** in the beautiful **Southern Highlands**.

At **Bowral** visit the **Bradman Museum and International Cricket Hall of Fame**. It was Sir Donald Bradman's vision "that cricket continue to flourish and spread its wings." To honour this vision, the museum has been expanded not only to show the importance of the Don's contribution to cricket and Australian history, but also cricket's important role throughout the world. Our next stop will be at the **Bowral Bowling Club** for a **light lunch**, after which we head off to **Red Cow Farm** in the picturesque rural village of **Sutton Forest**, where we will tour the exquisite **cool climate garden**. Developed around the 1820's cottage, the garden is divided into 'rooms' - the walled garden, the cottage garden, the monastery garden, a stunning collection of rare and unusual perennials, woodland and old-fashioned roses. From Sutton Forest, we then continue on to our accommodation in **Mittagong**.

Tonight, enjoy **dinner** in the adjacent **Mittagong RSL Club**.

OVERNIGHT: MITTAGONG SPRINGS RESORT, MITTAGONG. (L,D)

DAY 02 – MONDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER - MITTAGONG/TUGGERANONG (CANBERRA) - BOWRAL TULIP TIME FESTIVAL, HISTORIC BERRIMA COURTHOUSE

This morning visit **Corbett Gardens** – each Spring, tens of thousands of bulbs burst into bloom for the **Tulip Time Festival** in the **Southern Highlands**. One of Australia's oldest flower festivals, **Tulip Time** has been running for more than 60 years, transforming the beautiful Corbett Gardens into a sea of colour! Later, our route then takes us on to **Berrima**, a unique historic village on the Hume Highway. Berrima is an important part of Australia's national heritage and has hardly changed since the early 1800's. We take a fascinating guided tour of **Berrima Courthouse** which was, in 1838, the scene of Australia's first trial by jury. From Berrima, continue to Canberra and the **Alpha Hotel at Tuggeranong**, our home for the next 4 nights.
OVERNIGHT: ALPHA HOTEL, TUGGERANONG, CANBERRA. (B,D)

DAY 03 – TUESDAY, 01 OCTOBER – IN CANBERRA – TULIP TOP GARDENS, COCKINGTON GREEN GARDENS, AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Today our first stop will be at **Sutton** to visit beautiful **Tulip Top Gardens**, a privately owned garden with 10 acres of magnificent tulips, spring flowers and hundreds of blossom trees, nestling between the flowers and shrubs. Later, visit the miniature village of **Cockington Green** - unique in Australia, presenting an accurate 1/12th scale reproduction of buildings and settings typical of Great Britain. The spectacular gardens include over 30,000 annuals as well as rare and unusual plants.

Our final visit for the day will be to the **Australian War Memorial**, for a self-guided tour. The War Memorial contains an archive, centre of research and galleries displaying relics, documents, photographs and art. The Hall of Memory, with the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier at the centre of the formal commemorative areas and we stay to hear the **'Last Post'** being played, a truly moving experience.

OVERNIGHT: ALPHA HOTEL, TUGGERANONG, CANBERRA. (B,D)

DAY 04 – WEDNESDAY, 02 OCTOBER - IN CANBERRA – CANBERRA 'FLORIADÉ,' MT AINSLIE, EMBASSY DRIVE, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA, NATIONAL ARBORETUM

Today we begin with the **Canberra 'Floriade'** at Commonwealth Park, 2.8 hectares of lawns and the largest display of bulb blooms seen anywhere in the Southern Hemisphere. Over one million blooms set the backdrop as **'Floriade' 2024** delivers a festival filled with celebration and entertainment. Brilliant flowers and masses of colour all create a glorious display in Canberra's **Commonwealth Park**. Enjoy the scenery and shop at delightful craft stalls. Later, visit **Mt Ainslie** for a magnificent view of Canberra and particularly Parliament House. Enjoy an **orientation tour of Canberra** to view the sights – see Lake Burley Griffin, the High Court of Australia and the National Gallery of Australia, drive past the embassies in the diplomatic precinct of **Yarralumla** - many with architectural styles unique to their own countries. There will be a chance to explore the striking **National Museum of Australia**, presenting the story of our nation's people. We then head off to our last visit of the day at the **National Arboretum**, 250 hectares of rare and endangered significant trees from Australia and around the world. Explore the wonderful **National Bonsai and Penjing Collection** with some of the finest miniature trees and forests in the world.

OVERNIGHT: ALPHA HOTEL, TUGGERANONG, CANBERRA. (B,D)

DAY 05 – THURSDAY, 03 OCTOBER - IN CANBERRA – NGA & 'GAUGIN'S WORLD', LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN CRUISE

This morning, we begin with exploration of the **National Gallery of Australia**, with its extensive collections of Australian, Asian, European and American art. **Explore the special exhibition 'Gauguin's World'** – a rare opportunity to experience the enduring art of French Post-Impressionist artist Paul Gauguin. Featuring some of his most recognised masterpieces, many of which were created in the Pacific region, the exhibition offers new perspectives on Gauguin's life and work. Lunch may be purchased at the gallery café located on the lower ground floor, overlooking the lovely Sculpture Garden (own cost). This afternoon, enjoy a most informative **cruise** on tranquil **Lake Burley Griffin** – experience Canberra's premier landmarks from the water and hear the inside stories from our skipper as he shares some of Canberra's best kept secrets!

OVERNIGHT: ALPHA HOTEL, TUGGERANONG, CANBERRA. (B,D)

DAY 06 – FRIDAY, 04 OCTOBER - CANBERRA/ADELAIDE – TOUR PARLIAMENT HOUSE, NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, OUTLET SHOPPING, HIGH TEA AT THE CANBERRA HYATT

This morning we head off to **Parliament House** for a fascinating **1 hour guided tour**, then onto the **National Portrait Gallery** to view the 400 portrait display of people who have shaped Australia and who continue to shape our nation. Time for a lunch break (own cost) and maybe a bit of 'retail therapy' at the **Canberra Outlet Centre at Fyshwick**.

Last stop for the day is at the art-deco Canberra Hyatt Hotel where we will indulge ourselves with the famous **High Tea** in **The Tea Lounge**. Partake of a variety of savouries, finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones, jam and cream, tea and coffee. Also included is a **glass of sparkling wine**.

On completion of our High Tea, transfer to Canberra Airport for our flight back to Adelaide. Check in for your Virgin Australia flight and **please have your photo ID handy in order to receive your boarding pass**.

7.55pm Depart Canberra Airport on VA581, arriving Adelaide at 9.15pm. (B,HT)

AT THE END OF YOUR TOUR A HUGHES CAR WILL DRIVE YOU HOME

<u>TOUR COST:</u>	Sharing twin/double:	\$2998.00 per person
	Single supplement:	\$585.00 per person

MEAL CODINGS: (B) – Breakfast (L) – Lunch (HT) – High Tea (D) – Dinner

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Hughes home pick up service from/to your home (zoned area).
- Economy class flights with Virgin Australia.
- Luxury 5 star air-conditioned coach travel.
- Services of an experienced Spark Travel Tour Manager.
- 1 night's accommodation at the Springs Resort, Mittagong and 4 nights' accommodation at the Alpha Hotel, Tuggeranong, Canberra.
- 5 cooked breakfasts, 5 dinners, 1 lunch, 1 High Tea at the Canberra Hyatt Hotel.
- Entry to: Bradman Museum & International Cricket Hall of Fame, Bowral Tulip Time, Red Cow Farm Gardens, Berrima Courthouse, Tulip Top Gardens, Cockington Green Gardens, Australian War Memorial, Canberra Floriade, National Museum of Australia, National Arboretum, National Gallery of Australia including 'Gauguin's World,' cruise on Lake Burley Griffin, tour of Parliament House, National Portrait Gallery. (At the National Museum of Australia and NPG, entry to special exhibitions at own cost).
- Goods and Services Tax.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals, morning and afternoon teas, drinks other than indicated in the itinerary.
- Porterage. A suitcase with wheels is recommended - max weight 20kgs plus a small overnight bag maximum weight 7kgs.
- Items of a personal nature.

COVID-19:

No responsibility is taken by Spark Travel or the Event Organisers in regard to Covid-19. It is highly recommended that visitors wear a mask on board flights and whilst in enclosed spaces and we also recommend full vaccination against Covid-19.

IMPORTANT:

Due to OSH requirements, baggage weighing more than 20kgs will not be carried by Hughes, airlines or our coach company.

DOMESTIC TOUR BOOKING CONDITIONS

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Please ask your consultant for details. Please note that the majority of insurance policies do not cover Pandemics such as Covid-19.

EVENTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF SPARK TRAVEL:

Should an event occur which is beyond the control of Spark Travel, ie: delays to ship, aircraft, train, coach thereby incurring extra expenses, these additional costs are borne by the passenger at the time of the event. A travel insurance claim for reimbursement should be submitted to the insurance company upon return home. Please keep any receipts. It should be understood that neither Spark Travel nor any subsidiary company or representative shall be liable for any loss, injury or damage arising from our services.

ITINERARIES:

Itineraries are subject to change and no responsibility can be accepted. Coach operator and size of coach may be changed at the discretion of Spark Travel without notice. Where a tour does not meet minimum numbers travelling together on the outward journey a cost surcharge will apply. If group numbers fall below 15 adult paying passengers no tour leader will be provided. No itemisation of tour arrangements can be given and no refund for any portion of a tour not taken. Flora and fauna as described in an itinerary is nature and as such cannot be guaranteed.

ACCOMMODATION:

Spark Travel reserves the right to alter hotel/motel accommodation and to substitute a suitable alternative. Where accommodation is booked on a 'will share basis', at the time of finalisation if there is nobody suitable to share with, it may be necessary to pay the appropriate single supplement. Spark Travel does not accept any responsibility for the non-compatibility of 'sharing' clients. If by choice a single room is requested and booked a single room surcharge will apply.

HEALTH AND FITNESS:

A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. As a minimum you will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided. You must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information. It is recommended masks be worn on flights and in crowded or inside spaces. To protect yourself and fellow travellers, vaccination against Covid-19 is recommended.

FUEL SURCHARGES AND TAXES:

All bookings may attract additional fuel surcharges and taxes which can be levied up to and including the date of departure even if final payment has been made. Booking is subject to final audit.

SECURITY DEPOSIT:

A non-refundable security deposit of **\$675.00 per person (inc GST)** is required within five (5) days of booking.

FINAL PAYMENTS:

The security deposit forms part of the total price, the balance of which is due 60 days prior to departure, or in the case of bookings made within that 60 day period, the final payment is due as soon as the booking is confirmed.

LATE BOOKINGS AND AMENDMENTS:

Bookings made within 7 days inclusive of departure will incur a **late booking fee of \$75.00 per person**. Late bookings subject to availability. Once a booking has been made a **\$75.00 per person amendment fee** will apply for any alterations on selected departures only, and if applicable, one (1) change only to that booking. Transfers to other tours not permitted.

CREDIT CARDS:

If paying by credit card, a surcharge applies of 2% for Visa and Mastercard and 3.5% for Amex and Diners cards.

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:

- i) We act as an Agent; and
- ii) That our Terms and Conditions are in addition to the Terms and Conditions of each Travel supplier listed on the quote itinerary; and
- iii) That it is the Terms and Conditions of the Travel supplier that determine the terms of cancellation and refunds, if any.

BOOKINGS CANCELLED AFTER THE FINAL PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE:

- (a) Bookings cancelled 61 days or earlier, full refund less deposit and booking fee and any other non-refundable services or products.
- (b) Bookings cancelled 60 days or less prior to departure will incur a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost.
- (c) No refund can be given for any portion of the tour not taken and no refund after the tour has commenced.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended for all travel including domestic.

Travel insurance is available to cover you for cancellation including COVID-19.

Please ask your consultant for a quote.

Accreditation

