

Australian Travel and Adventure Tips

(NAPSA)—Australia is quickly becoming a favorite travel destination for more and more Americans. A trip to Australia is always an adventure, whether visiting the world-class cities of Sydney or Melbourne, exploring the vast Outback, or touring Australia's lush wine country. Australia—or Oz as Aussies often refer to her—is a land of magical contrasts. Here are a few suggestions on how to experience all that Australia has to offer.

Water, Water Everywhere!

Australia is surrounded by gorgeous coastlines, making snorkeling, scuba diving and surfing fantastic activities for any adventurer. The country's most famous natural wonder, the Great Barrier Reef, is by all accounts the world's largest living structure. Stretching over 1,243 miles, it is home to millions of brilliantly colored fish, coral and marine life. But the Great Barrier Reef is not the only water attraction to see. Australia is home to hundreds of beautiful beaches like Whitehaven Beach on Queensland's Whitsunday Island. The pure white sand slopes into the clear, warm waters of the Pacific Ocean, making this the perfect beach for swimming.

Taking on the Outback

Whether hiking, camping or simply viewing the ubiquitous ancient rock art sites in the Australian Outback, you will undoubtedly return from the experience with a new view of the outdoors. When visiting Central Australia, be sure to see the Devil's Marbles. This striking icon features gigantic granite boulders that balance impossibly on top of each other. Walk with dinosaurs in the Queensland Outback, where large fossil sites reveal proof of prehistoric creatures, mammals, birds and plants. For the real adven-



turer, four-wheel drive the Canning Stock Route, one of the most remote and isolated four wheel drive tracks in the world. When traveling this long and sometimes bumpy ride, always be sure to come prepared with an extra tank of gasoline, as well as extra water and food in case of an unforeseen delay on the trip.

Natural Beauty

Australia is a land of incredible beauty and contrasts. After experiencing the rugged Outback or lounging on the beach, one would hardly expect to see the rolling hills of wine country Down Under. But just outside the coastal city of Adelaide, the mighty Murray River gives life to South Eastern Australia's most celebrated wine regions, such as the Barossa and Clare Valleys, and provides the ideal habitat for Australia's elegant black swan. The Barossa's uniquely European heritage is reflected in its art and food, as well as its world class Shiraz. It's no wonder that the talented winemakers of Black Swan call the Barossa home.

And now, thanks to Black Swan wines, an adventure to Australia is only a mouse-click away. Enter for a chance to win a 12-day travel and epicurean adventure through Sydney, Adelaide, Cairns and the Wine Country, including round-trip, business-class airfare for two. To enter the "Wonders Down Under" sweepstakes, visit www.blackswanwines.com.