Travel planning guide to Australia
If you’re reading this guide it means you’re probably considering a vacation in Australia. Let us assure you that you’ve made a great decision. Australia is one of the safest countries in the world to travel in, we have world class nature with remarkable scenery, unique and interesting wildlife, and experiences that can’t be found elsewhere.

This guide is intended to make you think about exactly what it is that you’d like to get out of your vacation. We know that time is precious and it’s the one thing you can’t get back. At Alquemie, we create trips with substance and we focus on 5 star experiences, not just 5 star accommodation. Our mantra: ‘anybody can book the accommodation, where we add value is by layering in the magic’.

Here are some steps to get you started…
STEP 1. DREAM

THINK ABOUT THE KIND OF EXPERIENCES YOU SEEK.
DREAM…

What have been your favourite travel experiences to date. Why?

Image: Paris, Kenya
DREAM…

What attracts you to Australia?

Images: Snorkelling at Lizard island, Sydney harbour, Kangaroo at Arkaba
DREAM…

Are you a barefoot luxury kind of person or the well-heeled type?

Images top L to R: Qualia, Southern Ocean Lodge, Bottom L to R: El Questro, Sal Salis, Bamurru Plains
DREAM…

Would you consider an active holiday such as one of the Great Walks of Australia?
DREAM...

Is there anything you are passionate about?

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Images: Photography tour at Bamurru Plains, Swim with Sea Lions tour, Bairds Bay, Willie Gordon
DREAM…

Are you keen to get off-the-beaten track or stick to well-known icons?
Are there any must-see places?
STEP 2. PLAN

SO MANY POSSIBILITIES....
PLAN

How much time do you have?
Who will be travelling with you?
What time of year do you want to go?

Images from clockwise from top left: Short beaked echidna, Lizard Island, Saffire Lodge
FLIGHT TIMES

Australia is the sixth largest country in the world and only slightly smaller than the United States. Below are the flight durations of key routes within Australia.

Sydney to Perth – 5hrs
Sydney to Cairns – 3hrs
Adelaide to Darwin – 3.5hrs
Cairns to Ayers Rock – 3hrs
Melbourne to Alice Springs – 3hrs
Sydney to Hobart – 1.5hrs
Sydney to Adelaide – 2hrs
Sydney to Melbourne – 1hr
Darwin to Cairns – 2.5hrs
WEATHER

Australia’s climatic extremes are greater than most countries in the world. The northern shores of the country are dominated by a wet monsoon in the summer months (November to March), and dry, tropical climate throughout the rest of the year. The interior (essentially the Outback) receives little rainfall, supporting a multitude of ephemeral plants when the rains do finally come, and a controlled cycle of reproduction amongst the resident mammals.

When is the best time to go?
Any time. We design trips based on experiences and will create a journey for you that showcases the best of Australia for the season that you choose to travel.

The following pages will inspire you with where to go and when.
Icons of Australia

Visit Sydney, Ayers Rock (Uluru), the Top End, the Daintree Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef.

Allow 13 nights
Best from May to September
Top End Adventure, Aboriginal Culture & Wilderness

Visit Sydney, Darwin, Kakadu and Arnhem Land Safari, experience a Top End safari and the Northern Territory Outback

Best from May to September
Allow 11 nights
Remote Adventures

Visit Perth, Ningaloo Reef and the Whale Sharks, the Kimberley (Coast), the Kimberley (Inland), experience a Top End safari, Sydney

Best from April to July
Allow 16 nights

Image: Bamurru Plains, Top End
Whale sharks, wilderness & wine

Visit Perth, Ningaloo Reef and the Whale Sharks and Humpback whales, Margaret River

Best from March to May (Whale Shark months) and September to October
Allow 8 nights
Barefoot honeymoon

Visit the Top End, the Kimberley, Ayers Rock (Uluru), Lord Howe Island

Best from May to September
Allow 12 nights
Southern Outback, Wine, & Wildlife

Visit Kangaroo Island, the Flinders Ranges, South Australia wine region, Adelaide, a Gawler Ranges safari

Best from September to May
Allow 11 nights
Southern Luxury, Wildlife & Wine

Visit Melbourne, Barossa Valley, Flinders Ranges, Kangaroo Island, Lord Howe Island

Best from September to May
Allow 15 nights
Family Friendly

Visit Tasmania, Blue Mountains, Lord Howe Island

Best from September to May
Allow 9 nights
Island Luxury

Visit the islands of the Great Barrier Reef.

Best from April to October
Allow 2+ nights
City Stays

Try our exclusive Urban Safaris in Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart.

Best from October to May
Allow 2+ nights in each
Luxury Lodge Hopping

Australia’s 19 luxury lodges are exclusive by virtue of their remoteness, their special location and intimate size.

Depending on your desires and the time of year, we will recommend the best option for you.
Great Walks of Australia

Fully immerse yourself in Australia’s spectacular natural environment one of the Great Walks. From epic treks to short hikes through World Heritage-listed national parks, Australia has some of the best walking experiences in the world.

Allow 4 to 6 days depending on which walk.
STEP 3. BOOK

ALLOW ALQUEMIE TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE
Alquemie transforms the best of Australia into truly exceptional, bespoke travel experiences.

Every exceptional Australian travel experience we design is crafted individually and tailored to the tastes and whims of the traveller (with some doses of mystery and surprise thrown in). Discretion is upmost and creativity unparalleled.

With expertise, we will weave together any or all of the following:

Bespoke experiences • Private Tours • Special interest guides • Accommodation • Yacht charter • Dining • Air safari • Light aircraft • Jet • Heli • Rail • Transfers • Self-drive
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W: alquemie.com.au

Alternatively, contact your favourite Traveller Made Travel Agent.
AS FAR FROM ORDINARY AS YOU CAN POSSIBLY TRAVEL.