



Luxury Travel
since 1927

voyage

EDITION 9 2026

THE ART OF ADVENTURE

Everything to a T.

Antarctica | Argentina | China | Outback Queensland | Canada | New Zealand
The Kimberley | Sri Lanka | Alaska | Norway | Sweden | Denmark | Central Europe



Welcome to *Voyage*

As we approach our centenary, our passion for crafting extraordinary journeys continues to inspire everything we do. Since 1927, we've pioneered Australian travel, from our early camping holidays in the Outback to setting a new standard in river ship design with our new-generation vessels. A simple philosophy has underpinned every evolution: connecting guests to the genuine heart of remarkable destinations through unforgettable experiences.

We've always believed travel is a powerful teacher, connecting us to people, places and perspectives far beyond our own. At APT, we take great pride in curating authentic, immersive and intentional experiences for our guests. In this issue of *Voyage*, discover a taste of what awaits, from enriching encounters that immerse you in Canada's rich First Nations cultures (page 34), to the finest moments that bring Sri Lanka's vibrant cuisine, traditions and architecture to life (page 32).

At the cutting edge of innovation, our spectacular fleet of vessels redefines the cruising experience. Blending relaxed Australian ease with European elegance, our sister ships APT Solara and APT Ostara represent the pinnacle of style and sophistication — offering the perfect way to experience the magic of Europe's festive season with family (page 14).

Designed for intimate expeditions, Seabourn Venture is engineered to navigate the most remote corners of the globe — recently celebrating her first sailing to Antarctica with APT (page 4). All-inclusive ease is the hallmark of every voyage, where refined luxury and enriching discovery converge.

What lies at the heart of every great experience is the people. Outstanding service, an insider's perspective and 100 years of expertise shape each journey. It's also the memories made with loved ones, new-found friendships, and the stories that bring cultures to life. We speak with Atticus Garant, Executive Chef at Canada's renowned Fairmont Banff Springs, who shares the philosophy behind each plate and how nature has shaped his craft (page 20). Seabourn Expedition Photographer Harry Aslan draws guests' attention to the smaller details as he documents unscripted encounters with the wild on the Kimberley coast (page 28).

It's an honour to share these journeys with you, and in 2026, to continue the pioneering spirit that has shaped us since day one.

Bon Voyage,
Lou Tandy (nee McGeary)
APT Family Principal and Director

Explore more at aptouring.com.au Search for us on socials at @APTLOURING

EDITION 9 | 2026

Contents

THE ART OF ADVENTURE

4 Polar Pilgrimage

Set foot on Antarctic shores, discovering pristine wilderness and wildlife up close during an expert-led expedition aboard the ultra-luxury Seabourn Venture.

8 China by Water

Experience the height of contemporary opulence on board the new Yangzi Explorer as you cruise China's majestic Yangtze River over five immersive days.

12 Fjords in Fine Form

Explore Norway's sky-piercing southern fjords in a world of warm woods, fine pours and unhurried indulgence on an intimate small ship cruise.

14 Festive Tidings

Hear firsthand how Europe's white winter magic came alive for three generations of the Fry family on a festive river cruise aboard APT Ostara.

18 All Bases Covered in Outback Queensland

Five experiences in Longreach and Toogunna Plains reveal a landscape alive with history, culture, and quintessential outback charm.

20 Summit to Table

Fairmont Banff Springs' Executive Chef shares how northern roots, alpine terroir and disciplined craft shape dining at Canada's storied mountain castle.

24 Aotearoa in Its Element

The finest extremes of nature take centre stage on a journey between glaciers, soaring alpine peaks and steaming geothermal wonders in New Zealand.

28 Eyes on the Edge

Expedition photographer Harry Aslan reveals the Kimberley's most striking scenes — from crocodile country to champagne sunsets on Seabourn Pursuit.

32 Pearl of the Indian Ocean

From lantern-lit cave dinners to pool villas above rice paddies and leopards at dawn, quiet luxury unfolds at every turn on a journey through Sri Lanka.

34 Whistler's United Nations

A visit to Canada's Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre celebrates enduring First Nations heritage and culture amid the alpine glory of Whistler.



Cover:
Southern
Alps,
New
Zealand



Uncover refined beauty at every turn in
Sri Lanka on page 32



PUBLICATION MANAGER Grace Cullinan. **CONTENT DIRECTOR** Alexander Simpson. **WRITERS** Jemma Glucina-Henderson, Alexander Simpson, Danielle Cowan, Terysa Vanderloo. **DESIGN DIRECTOR** Brenda Gallagher. **DESIGNER** Michelle Monaghan. **PRODUCTION MANAGER** Robin Ritchie.

Voyage magazine is published for APT Australia Pacific Touring (ABN 44004 684 619). All rights reserved. Printed by Southern Impact, Melbourne. Both the printer and paper used to produce this document have ISO 14001 environmental certification. The paper is from sustainably managed forests using elemental chlorine free pulp and is printed by Southern Impact using vegetable-based inks.

POLAR *Pilgrimage*

For seasoned travellers who have circled the globe, Antarctica is the ultimate frontier — raw, remote and profoundly humbling.

WORDS Jemma Glucina-Henderson



Across the White Continent, icebergs are sculpted by the elements, white-blooded fish roam the sea floor, and million-year-old ice cores hold the Earth's stories. A land of extremes and classified as a polar desert, Antarctica is the driest, coldest and windiest continent. Ninety-eight per cent of the land is covered by ice, while chains of volcanoes bubble beneath the surface. The sun shines for months on end in summer, while winter is permeated by a relentless darkness. And upon arriving at the White Continent after crossing the infamous Drake Passage, you'll discover a soundscape like no other: a sweeping stillness punctuated by howling katabatic winds, the explosive cracks of calving glaciers, and the distant trumpeting of thousands of penguins.

Every voyage to the Antarctic Peninsula aboard the ultra-luxury Seabourn Venture is one-of-a-kind, where the weather governs the daily itinerary. Landing sites and Zodiac excursions are determined based on real-time safety, ice and wind conditions, while expedition leaders and the captain utilise daily — and sometimes hourly — assessments to



(Clockwise from left) A leopard seal resting on an ice floe; Seabourn Venture and a Zodiac; a shore landing on the Antarctic Peninsula

seize the best opportunities for discovery. An expedition cruise invites you to celebrate off-the-beaten-path adventure — and the rewards are second to none. Out on the water, kayak close to ancient glaciers, watch humpback whales sweep the sea for plankton from a Zodiac, and glimpse wildlife found nowhere else — from Adélie penguins to Weddell seals. Many of Antarctica's majestic creatures are largely unfazed by Zodiacs, allowing for intimate, close-range encounters.

Shore landings are carefully managed to preserve the environment, protect wildlife and ensure safety. At most sites, Antarctic regulations permit a maximum of 100 visitors on shore at a time. With fewer passengers to rotate than larger ships, Seabourn Venture offers up to two shore landings or Zodiac excursions on the water each day. Donning knee-high, waterproof boots, step ashore to visit historic expedition huts, walk amid waddling penguins as they collect pebbles for their nests, and follow trails marked by your guides to glacier viewpoints. Every discovery is enriched by the expertise of your 23-person Expedition Team, comprised of biologists, geologists, historians and more. Many have journeyed to Antarctica dozens or even hundreds of times, so enjoy the opportunity to draw on their expertise, attend onboard presentations, and listen to stories of their adventures in the Expedition Lounge.

A rite of passage for the daring, the polar plunge is anything but tentative. Leap off a Zodiac into the icy Antarctic waters, tethered to a harness. After the invigorating leap, crew members help you out of the water, with toasty towels, plush robes and hot beverages at the ready to warm you up. For those seeking a slower pace, adventure is never far. Soothe your muscles in the sauna as you spy a fluking whale or unwind in the heated whirlpool as fracturing glaciers tumble into the sea. Epicurean treasures await with eight world-class dining experiences, while your suite's private veranda invites quiet moments overlooking a sublime seascape dotted with icebergs. Every detail has been designed to seamlessly blend refined luxury with the ease of feeling at home — immersing you in the heart of this pristine polar realm and leaving it exactly as you found it.

15-DAY SMALL SHIP CRUISE + LAND TOUR
Antarctic Voyage

Find out more:

Search ISAA15 at aptouring.com.au
From \$22,995 per person, twin share.*
Departing February 2027.

*Conditions apply – see page 35



The First Sailing

Seabourn Venture recently embarked on her first voyage to Antarctica with APT, where guests were treated to breathtaking glacial vistas, close encounters with wildlife, and unforgettable moments on the world's most pristine continent.

"Words can't describe it, photos don't do it justice — Antarctica has stolen my heart." – Dianne Grima

"I'm experiencing the untouched — my first time in Antarctica, and it feels like stepping onto another planet made of ice. Watching groups of seals nap, penguins shuffle by, glaciers crack and whales breach — it's wild and peaceful all at once. Now I understand why people call this the trip of a lifetime." – Tenneil Lawson



(Clockwise from left) Zodiac exploration; a Weddell seal; APT Tour Directors and Tenneil Lawson on the first sailing

CHINA BY WATER

Sail China's longest river aboard the Yangzi Explorer, where contemporary Chinese design, immersive shore excursions and seamless inclusions elevate Yangtze to new heights.

WORDS Alexander Simpson

China's longest river has always carried stories. Rising on the Tibetan Plateau and coursing more than 6,300 kilometres to Shanghai, the Yangtze has shaped dynasties, commerce and poetry in equal measure. Between city stays, four nights aboard the new Yangzi Explorer place you at the storied river's very heart.

Flawlessly designed, the Yangzi Explorer feels less like a river cruiser and more like a boutique hotel that happens to glide through the Three Gorges. Inside, quiet opulence prevails, with contemporary interiors complemented by original artworks and antiques. The aesthetic extends to the spacious guest suites, where private balconies frame a cinematic procession of cliffs, mist and terraced hillsides. Luxury bathrooms, plush furnishings and considered conveniences from Dyson and Kohler lend a residential ease.

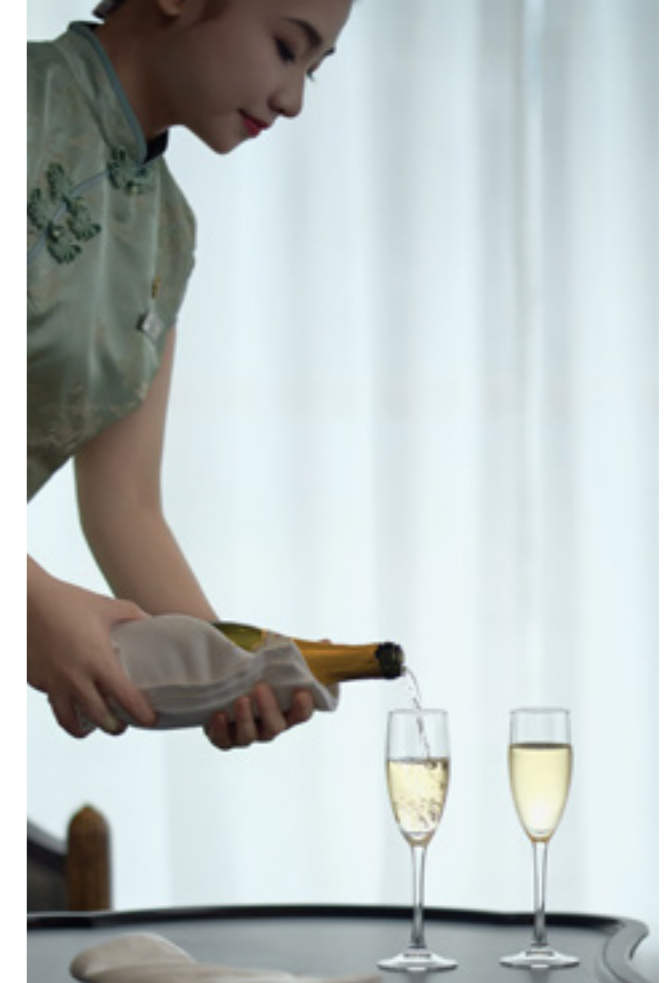
Days begin with Tai Chi on deck, led by a master as the river slips by in near silence. There's time for an unhurried breakfast, Western and Chinese favourites prepared to order, before settling into a window seat in the Explorer Bar. Afternoon tea appears with delicate precision; evenings bring regionally inspired menus that traverse Sichuan, Hubei and Cantonese flavours. All meals are included on board, along with house beverages, allowing you to savour each experience without a second thought for the bill.

Service is polished yet warm. Your APT Tour Director travels with you, complemented by knowledgeable local guides who illuminate each port with context and candour. Lectures by resident experts add further depth — the Yangtze is not simply scenery, but a living archive.



The headline moment arrives early. One of the few vessels permitted to do so, the Yangzi Explorer passes independently through the Three Gorges Dam ship lift — a 15,500-tonne marvel that hoists the ship 113 metres, the height of a 40-storey building. It is a feat best admired from your private balcony, drink in hand.

Beyond the engineering, the river narrows into drama. Sheer limestone walls rise in the Wu and Qutang Gorges, their silhouettes immortalised in scroll paintings and Tang poetry. In Fengjie, you might wander the storied White Emperor City, long associated with the poet Li Bai; in Badong, explore hidden caves or ascend to panoramic lookouts. At Zhongxian, the striking wooden pavilion of Shibaozhai clings improbably to a hilltop above the water.





Each day offers a choice of curated excursions, allowing you to tailor the tempo — perhaps a gentle cultural immersion one morning, a more active exploration the next. Back on board, the rhythm returns to calm: a spa treatment, a quiet hour in the panoramic View Lounge, or simply watching the river turn gold at dusk.

By the time you disembark in Chongqing to continue by high-speed rail towards Chengdu, the Yangtze feels less like a river crossed and more like a chapter lived — deeply, and in considered comfort.



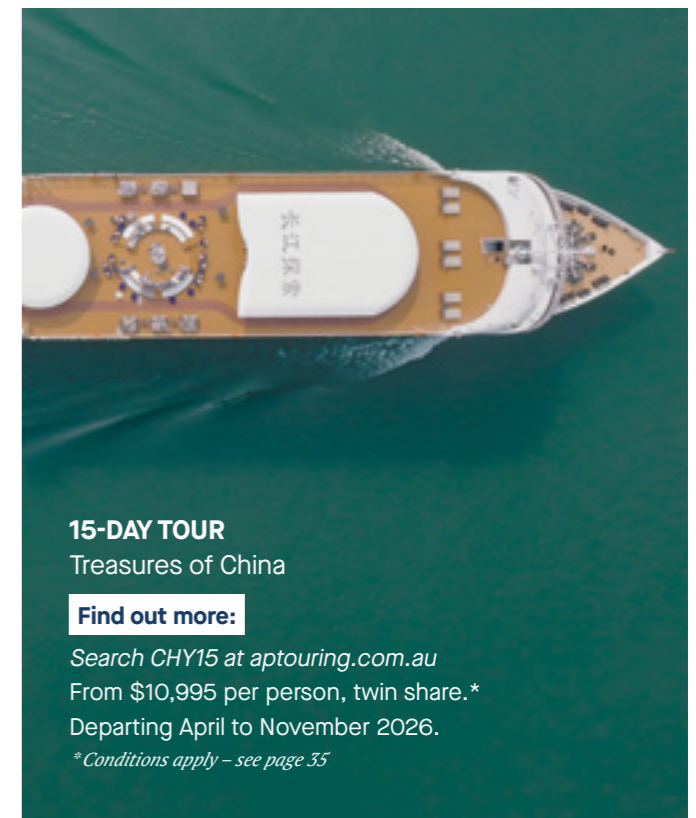
White Emperor City in Fengjie

Make It Yours: Freedom of Choice on the Yangtze

The Yangtze Explorer's shore program is designed with flexibility in mind. In Fengjie, history lovers can delve deeper at White Emperor City, tracing the verses of Li Bai against a backdrop of river and peak, while more energetic guests take to the Poetic Trail in Qutang Gorge for sweeping summit views.

At Zhongxian, the wooden tiers of Shibaozhai rise 12 storeys above the Yangtze — a feat of ancient architecture that rewards the climb with far-reaching panoramas. Alternatively, step back into mercantile China in Xituo Ancient Town, wandering Yunti Street's 1,314 stone steps and centuries-old shopfronts.

Each experience is included, expertly guided and thoughtfully paced, allowing you to tailor the Yangtze to your own curiosity seamlessly.



15-DAY TOUR
Treasures of China

Find out more:

Search **CHY15** at aptouring.com.au
From \$10,995 per person, twin share.*
Departing April to November 2026.

* Conditions apply - see page 35



FJORDS

in Fine Form

Granite cliffs, glacial light and a ship of sculpted calm — sail Norway's southern fjords in a world of warm woods, fine pours and unhurried indulgence.

WORDS Alexander Simpson

Morning arrives softly somewhere along Sognefjord. From your private veranda, the world appears pared back to essentials: water like burnished steel, farmhouses clinging improbably to green ledges, a ribbon of waterfall unspooling from snowfields above. Norway's southern coast — carved by retreating glaciers over millennia — feels elemental, almost austere. Inside Seabourn Venture, the mood is quietly assured.

Interiors favour texture over ostentation: honeyed timber, brushed stone, a palette drawn from sea and sky. Curved banquettes invite lingering conversation; oversized windows turn every lounge into an observatory. In The Restaurant, tables are laid with understated precision, and menus read like a cartographer's diary — pristine seafood, Nordic accents, impeccable provenance. Everything is included, from multi-course dinners to champagne at sunset, premium spirits poured without ceremony, and wines chosen to match both latitude and mood.

Days flow with gentle rhythm. Near Stavanger, stand atop Preikestolen, 604 metres above Lysefjord, taking in ferries tracing white lines through the water below. In Flåm, the celebrated Flåm Railway winds through tunnels carved into sheer rock, pausing at the thundering Kjosfossen waterfall.

Rosendal offers glacier-fed valleys and roses in unexpected bloom. From the deck of a small local vessel, the Stavanger archipelago and majestic Lysefjord unfold in all their grandeur: dramatic cliffs, cascading waterfalls, and traditional mountain farms framed by Norway's iconic Pulpit Rock. As you approach the narrow heart of Finnabotn, accessible only to smaller boats, the fjord closes in, steep peaks and pristine wilderness rising on every side — a secluded world revealed in serene, breathtaking detail.

Back on board, a spa ritual eases limbs after a forest hike near Mandal. A nightcap in the Constellation Lounge accompanies a horizon that refuses darkness. With every detail, down to the finest touch, seamlessly included — from caviar to curated excursions — this is Norway with the Midas touch: unhurried, immersive and flawlessly realised.

11-DAY SMALL SHIP CRUISE
Norwegian Fjords

Find out more:

Search **EUSSCAC11** at [aptouring.com.au](https://www.aptouring.com.au)
From \$14,995 per person, twin share.*
Departing May 2027.

*Conditions apply - see page 35



FESTIVE TIDINGS

Fireworks illuminated the Danube, snow dusted cobblestone streets, and the air was rich with the scent of cinnamon — Europe's spellbinding winter magic came alive for three generations of the Fry family on a festive river cruise aboard APT Ostara.

AS TOLD TO Jemma Glucina-Henderson

As the clock struck midnight in the Bavarian city of Passau, snow blanketed baroque rooftops, bells chimed from churches, and the Danube mirrored a riot of colour as fireworks danced across the indigo sky. A rare and picturesque white New Year graced the region, transforming the city into a snowy, storybook scene. It was a festive season to remember for Alexandra Fry, her parents Heidi and Kelley Fry, and grandmother Claire Gerstner-Stevens, one of the many families spanning multiple generations who recently enjoyed a magical Christmas and New Year's Eve river cruise aboard APT Ostara.

With every detail taken care of, the charm of European winter, and an effortless way to travel between quaint villages and historic cities, every moment unfolded with ease.

Under Fireworks and Frosted Lights

New Year's Eve was a highlight of the holiday with the family enjoying ABBA songs, flowing champagne, and a pre-midnight feast of Europe's finest desserts. "After dancing to the smooth vocals of onboard musicians Amy and Ludo, as midnight approached, we went up to the top deck of APT Ostara to watch the fireworks rise above ancient buildings," Heidi recalls.

"Cheers echoed around us, boat horns blared, and — most magically — snow was falling," she adds, the scene soon giving way to a spontaneous New Year's snowball fight.

Experiencing a European white Christmas was also a dream come true, with streets draped in sparkling lights, the aroma of wood smoke and mulled wine in the air, and an atmosphere straight from a fairy tale. From picking out decorations at the historic Salzburg Christkindlmarkt to singing carols in The Salon with new-found friends and indulging in a decadent onboard feast, having

everything arranged meant they could simply enjoy the festivities. "It was wonderful having Christmas and New Year's Eve all organised by APT and not having to think about preparing family dinners," Claire shares. "Instead, we could chat, play games and explore Europe," Alexandra adds.

Quiet Indulgence on the River

Life on board was defined by relaxed luxury, with every detail expertly crafted to capture the comfort of home while delivering a five-star experience. "When they say everything was taken care of, everything was taken care of," Alexandra says simply. "APT Ostara was magnificent," Heidi continues. "The cabins are beautifully furnished and the whole ship breathes elegance. The food is superb, the accompanying wines are perfectly matched, and the all-inclusive tours mean you never have to worry about how to fill your day."



(Top to bottom) Rothenburg, Germany; Claire Gerstner-Stevens and Heidi Fry at the Salzburg Christmas Market

With seven world-class dining experiences to choose from, fine dining at The Owner's Cellar and seasonal sharing plates at The Grüner Bar & Dining left lasting impressions, with the picturesque Bavarian countryside as a backdrop. And the ship's Conversation Lounge proved to be a family favourite, a space designed to evoke the warmth of a campfire — a nod to APT's outback touring heritage. "Even in winter, it was a wonderfully cosy spot to snuggle under a blanket, sip hot chocolate or glühwein, chat with new friends, and take in the magnificent scenery," Heidi shares.

Curators of Comfort

For Heidi, the truest hallmark of luxury lay in the company kept. "The wonderful staff on board greet you by name each day, know how you like your coffee, and remember that my daughter is vegetarian and which meals she prefers — making you feel as though you are the most important person on the ship." The APT Cruise Director, local guides and onboard crew elevated every moment with thoughtful touches. "It was lovely knowing if you needed anything, you just had to ask one of the friendly staff," Claire adds. Thanks to the attentive service, the family could simply relax and savour their time together. As Heidi puts it, "It is a truly indulgent feeling to know that everything is taken care of and all you need to do is enjoy yourself."

"The wonderful staff on board greet you by name each day, know how you like your coffee, and remember that my daughter is vegetarian and which meals she prefers — making you feel as though you are the most important person on the ship."



Exploring Narny Castle on Germany's Rhine River



Gingerbread heart at the Nuremberg Christkindlesmarkt

16-DAY RIVER CRUISE

Magnificent Europe with Christmas and New Year's Eve

- | | | | | | |
|------|---|----|--|----|--|
| 01 → | ARRIVE AMSTERDAM, EMBARK SHIP
<i>15 nights aboard APT Ostara</i> | 08 | NUREMBERG (CHRISTMAS DAY)
<i>Traditional Christmas feast on board</i> | 14 | BRATISLAVA (NEW YEAR'S EVE)
<i>New Year's Eve celebrations on board</i> |
| 02 | AMSTERDAM
<i>Canal cruise or cheese tasting</i> | 09 | REGENSBURG (BOXING DAY)
<i>Visit the city's historic sausage kitchen</i> | 15 | BUDAPEST (NEW YEAR'S DAY)
<i>Take a city tour or explore Fisherman's Bastion</i> |
| 03 | ANDERNACH
<i>Cocktail party at Narny Castle</i> | 10 | PASSAU, SALZBURG, LINZ
<i>'The Sound of Music' show and lunch</i> | 16 | DISEMBARK SHIP, DEPART BUDAPEST |
| 04 | RÜDESHEIM
<i>Wander the Christmas market</i> | 11 | MELK, DÜRNSTEIN
<i>Discover Melk Abbey</i> | | |
| 05 | MILTENBERG
<i>Guided walking tour or local monastery visit</i> | 12 | VIENNA
<i>Cocktail party at Vienna's City Palace</i> | | |
| 06 | WÜRZBURG
<i>Tour the Würzburg Residence, explore Rothenburg or enjoy a whisky tasting</i> | 13 | VIENNA
<i>Wander Schönbrunn Christmas Market</i> | | |
| 07 | BAMBERG (CHRISTMAS EVE)
<i>Guided tour of the Old Town</i> | | | | |

Find out more:

Search EUMCX16 at aptouring.com.au
From \$12,995 per person, twin share, including flights.*
Departing December 2026.
Conditions apply – see page 35

All Bases Covered

IN OUTBACK QUEENSLAND

The interior of Queensland seems to echo with stories of the past. In Longreach, stock routes more than 150 years old thread through the town like overlapping veins, and in 1921, it became an early base for Qantas. The story of a small outback airline turned global aviation giant is now preserved at the Qantas Founders Museum. From Longreach, five experiences lead travellers deeper into outback Queensland.

WORDS Danielle Cowan



1/ Sunset Rail Tour

In the late afternoon, a restored 2000-class 'silver bullet' train pulls out of Longreach. Through floodplains, gidgee scrub and red mulga, savour canapés as the setting sun casts its last light and retrace the lines that once connected remote stations to town.



2/ Thomson River Cruise

The Thomson River is central to life in Longreach. The town's water supply, and even its name, comes from the river's 'long reach'. Spend a morning cruising aboard the M.V. Longreach Explorer. River red gums line the banks, their scarred trunks a quiet record of much older Indigenous use of the waterway, where bark was once carefully removed to craft canoes and shelters.



3/ Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame

Opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1988, this museum is dedicated to the many faces — explorers, pastoralists, overlanders and Indigenous stock workers — who shaped the Outback. Wander through galleries of archival material and interactive displays at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame.



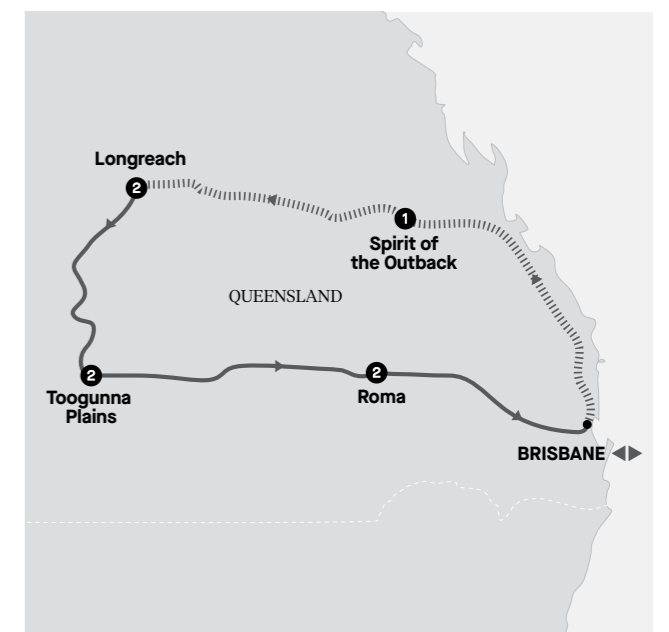
4/ Sundowners at Kyra Sandhills

South of Longreach, guests arrive at Toogunna Plains Farmstay and set out to the remoteness of Kyra Sandhills for sunset drinks and canapés. The rippling ochre dunes rise unexpectedly from flat grazing country as the Outback is set aglow by the setting sun. Afterwards, return to the homestead for a two-course dinner under the night sky.



5/ Mitchell Grass Retreat

Mere minutes from town, Mitchell Grass Retreat sets safari-style canvas tents on the open plains. Each has an en suite and a deck facing the Mitchell Grass Downs, an open sweep of treeless country. Spend evenings beside crackling fire pits and mornings on your private deck, where birdsong accompanies a hand-delivered breakfast.



8-DAY TOUR

Essence of the Outback

Find out more:

Search **GOBB8** at aptouring.com.au
From \$6,595 per person, twin share.*
Departing May to August 2026.

*Conditions apply – see page 35

SUMMIT TO TABLE

Atticus Garant, Executive Chef at Fairmont Banff Springs, shares how northern roots, alpine terroir and disciplined craft shape dining at Canada's storied mountain castle.

WORDS Atticus Garant and Alexander Simpson



Born in the Yukon and raised in British Columbia's interior, Atticus Garant's earliest food memories are forged in the north: wild fish, game and berries gathered with respect for their provenance. After refining his craft on Canada's West Coast and opening

Fairmont hotels around the world, he now presides as Executive Chef at Fairmont Banff Springs — the storied "Castle in the Rockies" set within Banff National Park. His cooking is grounded, globally informed and unmistakably alpine.



You oversee the culinary direction of Canada's "Castle in the Rockies". How do you define your role?

As Executive Chef at Fairmont Banff Springs, I have the privilege of looking after the entire culinary experience. My role is equal parts chef, mentor and storyteller. On any given day, I might be on the line checking sauces, in a tasting with our suppliers, or sitting with a young cook to map out their next career step. I work closely with our talented team across all restaurants, banquets and in-room dining to make sure every plate reflects our spectacular surroundings and the warmth of our people. Most of all, I see my role as creating opportunities for the team to thrive while we delight guests from around the world.

Your early years were spent in the Yukon and coastal British Columbia. How do those landscapes appear on the plate?

My earliest memories of food are very northern — wild fish, game, berries, and a deep respect for how hard-won good ingredients can be. The Pacific taught me finesse: exceptional seafood, vibrant Asian influences, and a strong culture of seasonality that sharpened my palate and sense of restraint.

My cooking is grounded in Canadian ingredients, shaped by international technique, and filtered through a very practical lens: food should be beautiful, but it also has to make sense for our team and for our guests.



Across your restaurants, what philosophy guides the menu?

We must make it count, and ensure we tell the story of Banff on every plate. Our ethos is guided by three simple values. First, respect for ingredients: sourcing thoughtfully, minimising waste, and allowing great products to speak for themselves. Second, craft and discipline: remaining lifelong students of cuisine. And third, hospitality through culture and teamwork. The food can be refined, but the feeling should always be warm, generous and welcoming.

What should no visitor to Alberta leave without tasting?

If you come to Alberta and don't try the beef, you've missed something essential. A properly aged, well-marbled Alberta steak, cooked simply and seasoned well, speaks directly to the region. When the product is right, it doesn't need much else. That said, Alberta's food story goes well beyond a single dish. What I'm most proud of is how we cook here. From a made-from-scratch philosophy in our kitchens to an in-house bakery and butchery program, and a plant-forward approach that gives vegetables the same respect as protein, every dish reflects care, discipline, and intent.



You're an enthusiastic fisherman. How does time on the water influence your menus?

Fishing keeps me honest as a chef. Ingredients are not just products, they're part of an ecosystem that deserves respect. It influences how we train and inspire our chefs and cooks. That sense of place becomes a starting point for creativity, not a limitation. The goal is food that feels connected to the outdoors, nourishing after a day in the mountains, but still balanced and thoughtful.

For those with a day in Banff — how would you spend it, from breakfast to dinner?

Start the day early and get outside. Breakfast, for me, is about fuel. Banff asks a lot of you physically, so I lean toward grain and protein-driven foods. Whether you're hiking, skiing, or just exploring town, lunch should be straightforward and satisfying. A good soup and sandwich does the job. In the evening, I'd finish at the castle. Start with a drink and take in the views, then settle into dinner. Alberta beef or bison, cooked with restraint and respect, feels right here. End with dessert or a nightcap, and you'll have experienced Banff the way it's meant to be.

In five words, how would you sum up Banff's food scene?

Adventurous, alpine, local, welcoming, evolving



19-DAY TOUR
Rockies Explorer and Alaska Cruise

Find out more:

Search **UT19BEVV** at [aptouring.com.au](https://www.aptouring.com.au)
From \$16,995 per person, twin share.*
Departing April to September 2027.
** Conditions apply – see page 35*

TRIPLE THE TROUBLE

Banff's famous hot chocolate trail meets alpine restraint. Chef Atticus Garant's version leans into French craft — specifically Valrhona — for a cup that is rich, balanced, vegan and gluten-free.

Valrhona Triple Chocolate Hot Chocolate

Soy milk
Valrhona dark cocoa powder
Valrhona Manjari 64%
Valrhona Caraïbe 66%
Chocolate shards
* Marshmallows optional

Gently heat soy milk. Whisk in dark cocoa powder until smooth. Add finely chopped Manjari and Caraïbe, stirring until melted and glossy. Pour into warmed cups. Garnish with cocoa powder and chocolate shards.

AOTEAROA

in Its Element

From awe-inspiring glaciers to rejuvenating hot springs set within steaming geothermal valleys, New Zealand unveils natural wonders distinct from anything found in Australia, yet so close to home.

WORDS Terysa Vanderloo



Feel the crunch of ice underfoot, crisp mountain air enveloping you as vast snowy ridges roll towards the horizon. Soon, you're cocooned in heat as you ease into a healing thermal pool, eyes drifting shut while geothermal clay and rising steam soothe the senses. From soaring alpine summits to vaporous volcanic landscapes, New Zealand's elemental landscapes lie within effortless reach.

In the North Island, Rotorua breathes with geothermal energy — simmering mud pools, mineral-rich thermal springs and spouting geysers rise from the earth. Journey south and the scenery transforms, revealing majestic mountains, rugged glaciers, and ice-strewn lakes.

Sculpted by Ice

New Zealand's largest glacier, Tasman Glacier/Haupapa, lies within Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park. Across your journey through Aotearoa, you're able to personalise your experience with a range of Freedom of Choice options. Among them is a cruise on the glassy Tasman Lake. Weave between icebergs calved from the glacier itself — close enough to touch as your boat glides past. This landscape continues to evolve, the glacier's steady retreat of around 180 metres each year gradually giving rise to the vast waters beneath your vessel. Flanked by snowy peaks, you'll feel a humbling sense of scale at the glacier's terminus, made all the more poignant by the landscape's transformation under a warming climate.

Nearby, Franz Josef Glacier/Ka Roimata o Hine Hukaterre descends from the snowy Southern Alps into lush rainforest — a rare phenomenon where abundant alpine snowfall, a steep mountain gradient and fast flowing ice combine to carry the glacier to remarkably low altitudes. Upgrade to an optional helicopter flight and soon you'll be set down upon the rugged ice, where jagged peaks rise from pristine snow and the glacier moves underneath your feet at up to five metres per day.

Tracking the Alps

Continue your alpine odyssey aboard the world-famous TranzAlpine train through the Southern Alps. Take in spectacular views of snow-dusted ranges, vast plains, mirror-still lakes and towering river gorges from panoramic windows or the open-air viewing carriage. Carving a path through this formidable topography called for engineering ingenuity, exemplified by the Staircase Viaduct, suspended 73 metres above the valley below. As the Alps recede into the distance and the plains open before you, the next stage of your adventure awaits.

Franz Josef Glacier/Ka Roimata o Hine Hukaterre



Te Puia, Rotorua, New Zealand

From Snow to Steam

In the North Island's interior, you'll discover a land shaped by heat and movement, where you may choose to experience rejuvenating hot springs and bubbling thermal pools. In Rotorua, geothermal forces lie close to the surface, most dramatically in Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley at Te Puia's Pōhutu Geyser — the largest in the Southern Hemisphere — which erupts in powerful displays of steam and spray every hour. Boiling water and hissing vapour surge up 30 metres into the air, while swirling mist drifts across the landscape.

A thermal wonderland unfolds at Waiotapu, where mineral pools shimmer in hues of bright lime, burnt amber and vivid aqua. And on the tranquil shores of Lake Rotorua, Wai Ariki Hot Springs & Spa awaits, providing a fitting finale to your passage through Aotearoa's realms of snow and steam.

Indulge in a Restorative Journey spa experience, where Māori culture and time-honoured healing traditions are woven into immersive rituals. Experience mineral-rich clay therapies and cleansing steam rooms, where you recline upon heated stones as restorative warmth soothes body and mind. Emerge refreshed and renewed — a passage through New Zealand's elemental landscapes is nothing short of transformative.

Find out more:

Search NZCA20 at [aptouring.com.au](https://www.aptouring.com.au)

From \$11,395 per person, twin share.*

Departing September 2026 to April 2028.

*Conditions apply – see page 35



20-DAY TOUR

Essence of New Zealand

01 →	ARRIVE CHRISTCHURCH <i>One night at Rydges Latimer Heritage tram ride with onboard drinks and canapés</i>	07	QUEENSTOWN <i>Freedom of Choice touring in Queenstown</i>	14	WELLINGTON, NAPIER <i>Craggy Range Winery tour and tasting</i>
02	CHRISTCHURCH, LAKE TEKAPO/TAKAPŌ, AORAKI/ MOUNT COOK <i>Freedom of Choice sightseeing in Aoraki/Mount Cook One night at The Hermitage Hotel, in a room with alpine views</i>	08	QUEENSTOWN <i>Day at leisure</i>	15	NAPIER, TAUPŌ, ROTORUA <i>Maori feast and cultural performance at Te Pā Tū</i>
03	AORAKI/MOUNT COOK, DUNEDIN <i>Moeraki Boulders/Kaihinaki exploration on Koekohe Beach</i>	09	QUEENSTOWN, FRANZ JOSEF/WAIAU <i>One night at Te Waonui Forest Retreat</i>	16	ROTORUA <i>Freedom of Choice sightseeing in Rotorua</i>
04	DUNEDIN, TE ANAU <i>Larnach Castle tour Taste of Fiordland dinner</i>	10	FRANZ JOSEF/WAIAU, CHRISTCHURCH <i>TranzAlpine train journey</i>	17	ROTORUA, AUCKLAND <i>Freedom of Choice sightseeing in Auckland</i>
05	TE ANAU <i>Freedom of Choice touring in Te Anau</i>	11	CHRISTCHURCH, KAIKŌURA, BLENHEIM <i>Highlights of Marlborough dinner</i>	18	AUCKLAND, BAY OF ISLANDS <i>Two nights at Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands</i>
06	TE ANAU, MILFORD SOUND/ PIOPIOTAHU, QUEENSTOWN <i>Milford Sound/Piopiotahti cruise</i>	12	BLENHEIM, PICTON, WELLINGTON <i>Allan Scott Family Winemakers experience Interislander ferry to Wellington</i>	19	BAY OF ISLANDS <i>Catamaran cruise to Cape Brett and the Hole in the Rock Farewell dinner</i>
		13	WELLINGTON <i>Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa visit</i>	20	BAY OF ISLANDS, DEPART AUCKLAND

EYES ON THE EDGE

Expedition photographer Harry Aslan reveals the Kimberley through a patient lens — from crocodile country to champagne sunsets aboard Seabourn Pursuit.

WORDS Harry Aslan and Alexander Simpson

Harry Aslan has had a camera in hand since he was 10. "I was always running around, recording everything I saw." After years capturing joy on cue at weddings and events, he began searching for moments that refused to be staged. The wild kept calling and he answered. Aslan packed up his van and spent two years exploring Western Australia, documenting remote coastlines and elusive species before joining Seabourn as an Expedition Photographer. Today, his images — many captured aboard Seabourn Pursuit — chronicle one of Australia's most formidable coastlines: the Kimberley.

Stretching along Australia's northwest, the Kimberley coast is a labyrinth of burnt-orange escarpments,

mangrove-fringed rivers and tidal phenomena so powerful they redraw the shoreline daily. It is also, as Aslan puts it, "unfathomably remote and difficult to access". That remoteness is precisely the appeal.

What surprises him most, even now? "The level of luxury," he admits. "It's quite surreal going from these extreme, rugged locations few people have ever explored, to a gorgeous ship where you sit down to a gourmet five-course meal." Within an hour, guests move from scanning waterways for crocodiles on a Zodiac to sipping champagne in the lounge. The contrast

never dulls.

For Aslan, Prince Frederick Harbour's Porosus Creek is photographic theatre. At low tide, the mudflats breathe. "You can see mudskippers running and

fighting for territory, little mangrove snakes sliding through and white-bellied sea eagles soaring high above, ready to swoop." His favourite recent sighting? A saltwater crocodile stationed at the mouth of a channel, fish drifting towards him. "It was like a sushi train for crocs!"

Guests occasionally witness the hunt firsthand. "Crocodiles tend to feed at night, but if we head out on a Zodiac at the right time and the right conditions, we can see them in action, flicking prey in the air to catch in their powerful jaws — it's a special thing to witness."

Such moments are amplified by the onboard Expedition Team — geologists, marine biologists and ornithologists who synchronise the day's adventures to the whims of nature across the region, from Montgomery Reef to Horizontal Falls. Their insight, Aslan notes, deepens every encounter. "From identifying birds to tracking the tides, they understand the Kimberley's intricacies and bring it to life."



(Top to bottom) Harry Aslan on a Zodiac; a fiddler crab

As Expedition Photographer, Aslan plays a quieter role. "I have the privilege of drawing the guests' attention to the details they might have missed — the way the light plays on the rocks, the glint in an animal's eye." In a landscape where tides surge more than 10 metres and water plunges 84 metres from the sheer sandstone cliffs at King George Falls, perspective matters.

The Kimberley coast stretches for more than 12,000 kilometres between Broome and the Northern Territory, yet Aslan notes it remains overlooked. "People often put off exploring the Kimberley as it's so close to home, but it is truly one of the last frontiers on Earth." Cruising, he adds, is the ideal way to access it — travelling in unexpected luxury while reaching places otherwise inaccessible by road.

And his seasoned advice? Practical, of course. "When you do visit, bring your best camera." In the Kimberley, timing is everything — and the light rarely waits.



Find out more:

Search GKKCB10 at aptouring.com.au
 From \$15,995 per person, twin share.*
 Departing May 2026 to August 2027.
 *Conditions apply – see page 35

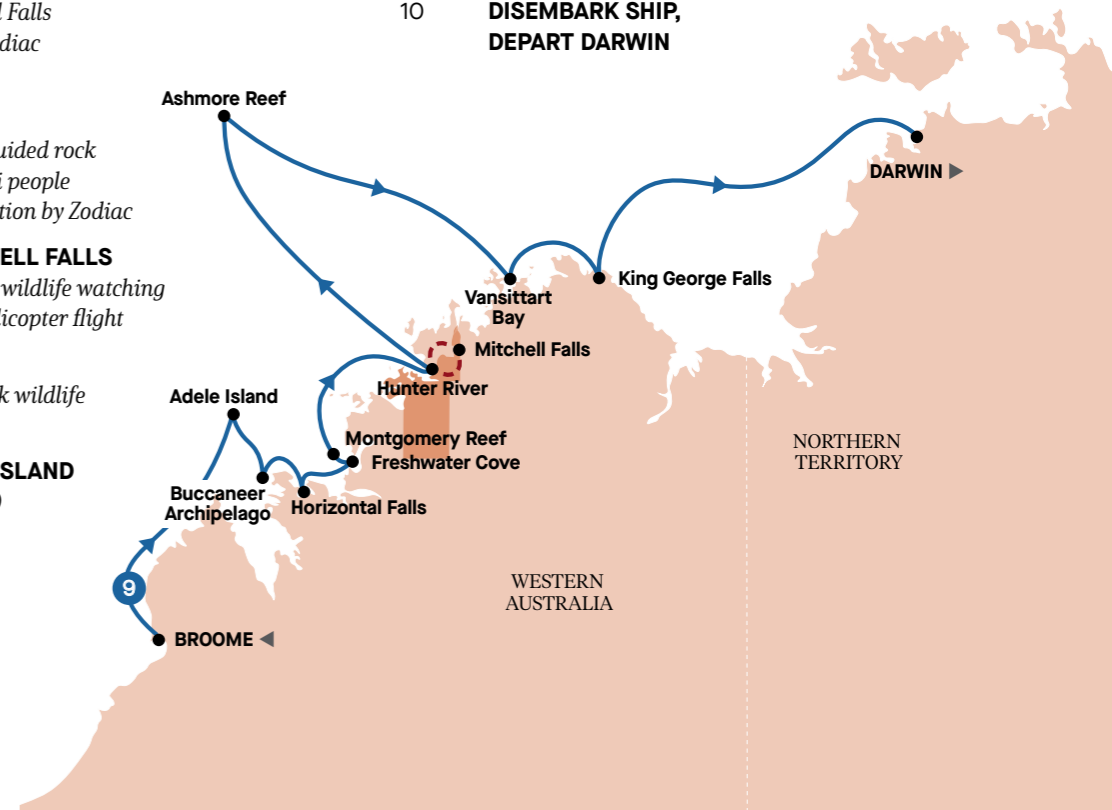


(Clockwise from top left) A green sea turtle; A rock-wallaby surveying its surrounds from a rocky perch; saltwater crocodiles are Kimberley's masters of stealth

10-DAY SMALL SHIP CRUISE

Kimberley Coastal Expedition

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>01 → ARRIVE BROOME, EMBARK SHIP
<i>Nine nights aboard Seabourn Pursuit</i></p> <p>02 ADELE ISLAND, BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO
<i>Adele Reef and marine life Zodiac excursion</i></p> <p>03 HORIZONTAL FALLS
<i>Talbot Bay and Horizontal Falls exploration up close by Zodiac</i></p> <p>04 FRESHWATER COVE, MONTGOMERY REEF
<i>Smoking ceremony and guided rock art tour led by the Arraluli people
Montgomery Reef exploration by Zodiac</i></p> <p>05 HUNTER RIVER, MITCHELL FALLS
<i>Prince Frederick Harbour wildlife watching
Optional Mitchell Falls helicopter flight</i></p> <p>06 ASHMORE REEF
<i>Ashmore Reef Marine Park wildlife discovery by Zodiac</i></p> <p>07 VANSITTART BAY, JAR ISLAND
<i>Gwion Gwion (Bradshaw) rock art experience</i></p> | <p>08 KING GEORGE RIVER AND FALLS
<i>King George Falls exploration up close by Zodiac</i></p> <p>09 DAY AT SEA
<i>Day at leisure</i></p> <p>10 DISEMBARK SHIP, DEPART DARWIN</p> |
|---|---|





PEARL OF THE *Indian Ocean*

From lantern-lit cave dinners to pool villas above rice paddies and leopards at dawn, a journey through Sri Lanka reveals design, devotion and wild beauty, with luxurious moments seamlessly included at every turn.

You rise before the heat to climb Sigiriya, the fifth-century citadel improbably poised above jungle. Frescoes glow in the half-light; at the summit, symmetrical gardens and palace ruins reveal ambition and artistry in equal measure.

At Uga Ulagalla, your villa opens onto uninterrupted green — a private pool, vast skies, bicycles propped casually beside ancient reservoirs. Indulgence stretches luxuriously here.

Dinner arrives in a natural cave at Heritage Kandalama. Candlelight dances across stone as each dish is served in thoughtful succession. Nearby, the luminous interiors of Dambulla Cave Temple shimmer with painted ceilings and gilded Buddhas.

In the island's southeast, safari unfolds at Yala National Park. A ranger pauses; a leopard emerges, fluid and self-possessed. Back at Hilton Yala Resort, sunset settles over the Indian Ocean, mirrored in the pool's burnished waters.

Design is both exemplary and deeply personal at Lunuganga, the country estate of renowned Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa. Airy interiors showcase Tropical Modernism, flowing seamlessly outdoors, where gardens frame Dedduwa Lake carefully composed vistas — a testament to the island's enduring design sensibility.

Every day in Sri Lanka brings new and unexpected expressions of quiet, all-encompassing luxury — a reminder why this teardrop island is celebrated as the "Pearl of the Indian Ocean".

15-DAY TOUR
Sri Lanka Unveiled

Find out more:

Search **SLA15** at aptouring.com.au
From \$10,195 per person, twin share.*
Departing April to November 2026.

** Conditions apply - see page 35*

WHISTLER'S *United Nations*

North America's largest ski resort offers more than alpine pursuits. At the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, encounter the Indigenous stories that give deeper meaning to Whistler's mountains.

WORDS Danielle Cowan



The road to Whistler winds north from Vancouver along the Sea to Sky Highway, where mountains rise amid cedar and fir forest. In Squamish language, the route is known as Átl'ka7sem, meaning 'paddling up the sound', a reference to the canoe route once navigated between the Salish Sea — the coastal waters bordering Vancouver — and the Squamish River at the gateway to the mountains.

Whistler lies on the shared traditional territory of the Líl'wat7ul (Lil'wat) and Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish) peoples. For thousands of years, it has been known as Skwíkw in the Squamish language. Opened in 2008, the Indigenous-owned Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre invites visitors to discover how these two Nations have lived in harmony with the land for millennia. On a journey through the Rockies, before sailing to Alaska, the day in Whistler begins here, the afternoon unfolding in the alpine landscape beyond.

The centre's structure itself is designed to evoke the traditional Squamish longhouse and the Lil'wat Isken (traditional earthen pit house). Upon arrival, guests are welcomed by a hand drum song. Cultural Ambassadors then guide visitors through the Great Hall, where original artefacts bring legacy to life. A 12-metre cedar canoe speaks to traditional hunting, fishing and travel along the waterways that once connected communities, while thick wool garments and regalia reveal how the Squamish and Lil'wat peoples dressed for both climate and ceremony. Along the walls stand imposing house posts and story poles, intricately carved to honour family lineage and ancestral teachings.

Alongside the centre's permanent collection, rotating special exhibitions showcase distinct cultural focus areas, from fashion and net making to land stewardship and storytelling. A theme remains present through each installation, and extends beyond the exhibitions, as guests enjoy a First Nations-inspired breakfast that echoes the philosophy: to take only what is needed from nature, and nothing more.

Leaving the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, the mountains of Whistler remain unchanged, the sun perhaps resting on a different part of the trees, but they no longer feel silent. Later, from a gondola high above the valley or from the towering pines, the landscape will now carry the story of a shared territory.

Find out more:

Search **UT22BEVV** at [aptouring.com.au](https://www.aptouring.com.au)

From \$17,395 per person, twin share.*

Departing April to September 2027.

*Conditions apply – see page 35



22-DAY TOUR Rockies Odyssey and Alaska Cruise

- 01 → **ARRIVE VANCOUVER**
- 02 **VANCOUVER**
- 03-04 **VANCOUVER, ROCKY MOUNTAINEER, KAMLOOPS, BANFF**
- 05-06 **BANFF, LAKE LOUISE**
- 07 **MORAINE LAKE, LAKE LOUISE**
- 08-09 **LAKE LOUISE, ATHABASCA GLACIER, JASPER**
- 10 **JASPER, MOUNT ROBSON, SUN PEAKS**
- 11 **SUN PEAKS, WHISTLER**
- 12 **WHISTLER**
- 13 **WHISTLER, GEORGIA STRAIT, VICTORIA**
- 14 **VICTORIA, THE BUTCHART GARDENS**
- 15 **VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, EMBARK SHIP**
- 16 **INSIDE PASSAGE**
- 17 **JUNEAU**
- 18 **SKAGWAY**
- 19 **GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK**
- 20 **KETCHIKAN**
- 21 **INSIDE PASSAGE**
- 22 **DISEMBARK SHIP, DEPART VANCOUVER**

voyage

EDITION 9 2026

Terms and Conditions:

*Conditions apply. **SEE:** [aptouring.com.au](https://www.aptouring.com.au) for full conditions. **ALL OFFERS:** Limited seats/suites and offers on set departures are available and are subject to availability and book by dates. Prices are based on per person (pp), AUD, twin share and include savings and port charges where applicable. Prices are correct as of 1 September 2025 but may fluctuate due to changes in availability, surcharges, taxes or currency. Offers are available for travellers departing from Australia. Offers are valid for new bookings only. Offers may be withdrawn at any time. Maps may not be to scale. **PRICES BASED ON:** EUMCX16, Departing 18 December 2026 (Category E); GOBB8, departing 4 July 2026. GOCQ14, departing 20 June 2026; SLA15, departing 30 September 2026; ISAA15, departing 9 February 2027 (Verandah Suite V1); UT22BEVV, departing 17 April 2027; NZCA20, departing 13 April 2027; GKKCB10, departing 26 July 2026; UT19BEVV, departing 1 May 2027; EUSSCAC11, departing 18 May 2027 (Verandah Suite 1); CHY15, departing 20 August 2026. Some images in this publication are copyright of, and have been reproduced with the permission of: Fairmont Banff Springs; Atticus Garant; Chris Amat; Harry Aslan; Seabourn; Tenneil Lawson; Yangzi Explorer; Alexandra Fry; Tourism Queensland; Mitchell Grass Retreat, Longreach; Toogunna Plains Farmstay, Quilpie; Outback Aussie Tours, Queensland; M.V. Longreach Explorer; Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame, Queensland; Rach Stewart; Te Puia, Rotorua, New Zealand; Uga Ulagalla; Heritage Kandalama; Hilton Yala Resort; Transco Travels Sri Lanka; Lunuganga, Geoffrey Bawa's Country Estate. Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd. ABN 44004 684 619. ATIA accreditation #A10825, APT-7025

YOU ARE INVITED

Discover a world of luxury travel at our complimentary APT travel events. Join APT's Travel Experts, who will guide you through our range of tours, travel styles and unique experiences on offer around the globe. Plus, they'll share their exclusive insights to help you find your dream destination. Our friendly team is also available on the day to help with your enquiries and assist with booking your journey.

Find an exclusive APT travel event near you.

aptouring.com.au/events

