



Luxury Travel
since 1927

Murray River Cruising to a T.

ESSENTIAL TOUR INFORMATION

PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

Passports and Visas

United Kingdom, Canadian and United States passport holders require an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) for Australia. These must be obtained prior to departure. For all other passport holders, please check with your consulate for current requirements prior to travel. Note: Visa requirements are valid at the time of printing, but are subject to change. Please contact your consulate for up-to-date information.

Itinerary

Although every effort is made to follow the itinerary as per the brochure, there may be times when this will have to be varied due to weather or other conditions prevailing at the time.

Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend the purchase of comprehensive travel insurance to cover you for the entirety of your time away. Hospital stays, treatment, medical evacuation and other medical costs can be expensive and often need to be paid before services will be provided. Insurance that covers trip cancellation and delay, medical expenses, accidental death, lost luggage, medical evacuation and airline cancellation charges is recommended. We also recommend your policy includes coverage for COVID-19 related events such as quarantine expenses, flight changes, and cancellation fees.

WHAT TO PACK

Luggage Requirements

Due to the limited space in your cabin, we recommend only packing your essential items. Please note there is a restricted luggage weight limit of 15kg per person. Luggage can be stored under your bed, giving you more space to enjoy your cabin.

Clothing

While personal preferences vary, we recommend considering the time of year you are travelling and packing a variety of warm and cool

clothing to suit the climate. Bring enough lightweight, comfortable clothing to last for a week, along with appropriate footwear. Drip-dry clothing is easy to launder and requires no ironing. The dress code aboard the ship is relaxed. Light, comfortable clothing is ideal during the day, while smart casual attire is recommended in the evenings on board the ship. Comfortable walking shoes are essential for time spent ashore. If you bring a CPAP machine, pack an extension cord to ensure access to a power point.

STAYING HEALTHY ON HOLIDAY

It's important for you to be as healthy as possible before you travel, and to maintain your health by applying good hygiene practices while on tour. Respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses, while usually minor in nature, can spread rapidly within a tour group, and have a major

impact on everyone's enjoyment. APT is committed to reducing the spread of infections on tours. We ask that you read and follow our recommendations to ensure a healthy, safe and enjoyable holiday for you and your fellow travellers.

Mobility and Fitness

This tour requires a basic level of fitness. It involves some uneven surfaces, occasional steps, and short periods of standing. Sightseeing is mostly by coach, with easy walking tours of up to 2km that include stops along the way. Guests may opt out of any physically demanding activities or excursions, but must be able to embark and disembark vehicles and vessels unaided.

River ships are different to ocean cruise ships — gangways, hallways, and public areas are narrower. Wheelchairs and walking aids are not suitable on these tours. All passengers requiring special assistance must travel with a carer. Crew and guides are unable to assist passengers on and off ships and coaches due to occupational health and safety.

See Your GP

Your GP or travel clinic is the best source of information about preventative measures. We recommend you consult your GP or local travel clinic for detailed advice to ensure maximum pre-travel preparation. Please take a copy of your travel itinerary with you to assist your GP with the recommendations of appropriate medication. It may be wise to ask your doctor to prepare your medical history for a doctor, should you need to see one on your cruise. It should include your name, address, emergency contact, blood type, medical history, current medications and dosages, drug allergies, reasons for prior hospitalisation and a list of vaccinations and dates. A copy of your prescriptions is vital in case you need medical assistance. Prepare a list of any medications you use, along with your name, dosage, prescribing doctor and their phone number. Pack sufficient medication for the duration of your tour. Your medication should be kept close at hand in your purse or carry-on bag. Remember to leave medication in its original container so it can be easily identified. It is also a good idea to bring a copy of your prescription for glasses or contacts.

Pack a Medical Kit

A small medical kit is recommended for all travellers, as depending on your destination, there may be no stops once you are on your cruise to purchase items. Your medical kit should include:

- Cold and flu medication (e.g. cold and flu tablets, throat lozenges, nasal decongestant).
- Your preferred painkiller.
- Medicine for gastrointestinal upsets (e.g. antacids, 'stoppers' for diarrhoea and a laxative for constipation).
- Other supplies including anti-motion sickness medication, plasters, blister pads, scissors, tweezers and eye drops.

Practice Good Hygiene

Washing your hands is the most effective way to reduce the risk of contracting and spreading infections. Health experts recommend washing your hands frequently with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds, especially before eating, after sneezing or coughing, and after touching high-contact surfaces, such as doorknobs, elevator buttons and railings.

Please be mindful of your fellow travellers with respect to coughing, sneezing and the disposal of used tissues.

Cold and Flu

Viral respiratory infections are the most common infectious illnesses affecting travellers. Colds and flu are primarily spread by people coughing, so please practice hygiene and respiratory courtesy. This includes washing your hands often, covering your coughs and sneezes, and using antibacterial wipes or hand sanitiser frequently, i.e. after excursions, prior to meals, and throughout the day. Influenza can be common during overseas travel. The flu vaccine provides protection against the strains prevalent during flu seasons. Consult your GP for advice.

Gastro and Traveller's Diarrhoea

Traveller's diarrhoea is the second-most common infectious illness affecting travellers. The illness can be due to a number of different bugs including viruses and bacteria. Viral gastroenteritis is generally spread by person-to-person contact; whereas bacterial gastroenteritis is generally spread from consuming contaminated food or water. Symptoms can include fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain. The incubation for the illness varies depending on the cause.

Symptoms are generally self-limiting and treatment includes rest, rehydration, simple diet, anti-nausea and anti-diarrhoea medications. Antibiotics are generally reserved for use when symptoms are more severe or protracted (e.g. fever, abdominal pain, bloody diarrhoea or duration of symptoms for more than two days). Strict personal hygiene measures, particularly hand washing, helps protect you from getting sick and spreading the infection to others.

Sun Exposure and Dehydration

The weather will be variable on your tour. Drinking plenty of water is important to prevent dehydration. A hat and good sunscreen are important for preventing sunburn, even on overcast days.

Injury or Illness

All staff on board the Australian Star have mandatory first aid training. In the event of a more serious injury or illness, medical care can be obtained at main towns. Please advise the crew of any medical conditions and any treatment that could be required in an emergency. In the event that you have to leave your tour because of illness, you will need to arrange your own return to the departure point at your own expense.

APT Health and Safety Protocol

APT has created a Health and Safety Protocol, as well as COVID-19 protocols that all Cruise Directors are required to adhere to. You may be requested to assist in reducing the spread of viruses if you are showing symptoms while on tour. If you are showing symptoms of a cold or a virus while on tour, you may be asked to wear a face mask, have meals in your cabin instead of the dining room, or remain in your cabin until the symptoms improve. Refer to our website for our most up-to-date protocols.

GENERAL TOURING INFORMATION

Departure/Return Points and Times

Please check your travel documents for further details of pickup and departure points and times.

Dietary Requirements

Please ensure you advise either your Travel Agent or APT of any dietary requirements as soon as possible. Every effort is made to fulfil requests, but these cannot always be guaranteed. With the wide selection of menus and choice of dishes available, special dietary requirements will be met where possible. For strict dietary requirements, please check with your Travel Agent or APT concerning meals.

Personal Expenses

We recommend you bring money (or a credit card) for incidentals such as refreshments or souvenirs not included in your package.

Pre and Post Tour Connections

Some of our guests choose to make their own air and/or extra accommodation reservations. In this case, it's your responsibility to confirm your own arrangements and we suggest that you reconfirm your bookings prior to starting the cruise. Please note that if the return of your cruise is delayed for any reason, APT does not accept responsibility for any additional charges that may be imposed by the operator of your ongoing travel arrangements. Before booking your flights, please check the itinerary requirements to ensure you allow enough time to participate in any touring and/or inclusions on the

first and last day. If in doubt, please ask your travel consultant. Accommodation for periods before or after the tour may also be booked if desired. Transfers must be arranged at the time of booking and flight details need to be provided to confirm this service. If booking pre- or post-tour accommodation with APT, you will receive a transfer from the airport to your accommodation upon arrival and also receive a transfer from your accommodation to the airport after your cruise.

Sleep Apnoea Machines and Other Medical Devices

Please let your travel agent or APT know as soon as possible should you require the use of a sleep apnoea machine or other medical devices while on board your cruise.

Smoking

Please be advised that the entire vessel including your cabin is strictly no smoking, including E-cigarettes.

Tour Feedback

As part of our commitment to providing quality touring experiences, we welcome and encourage your feedback. Your Cruise Director will share with you a feedback form. Please take the time to answer the questions and make relevant comments. All feedback is read, and a summary of each tour is given to all members of APT management.

The Climate

Australia's seasons are the opposite of the northern hemisphere. The northern one-third of the country is tropical, while the southern regions are temperate. Because of the size of Australia, summer and winter climates vary from area to area, but this means there is always a region where the climate is ideal, making it a great year-round destination. Due to these wide variations in weather, itineraries may be altered to suit the conditions.

AUSTRALIAN STAR SHIP INFORMATION

Beverages

Complimentary tea, coffee, select alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are available all day throughout your cruise, excluding premium spirits and selected wines, which are offered at an additional cost.

Licensing laws do not permit alcohol to be brought on board the vessel by passengers. Bottles of wine purchased from the wineries visited are allowed to be brought back on the boat but are not to be consumed whilst on board the cruise.

Cabin Facilities

Each suite features a private ensuite bathroom, flat-screen TV, complimentary Starlink Wi-Fi, and individual climate control air conditioning.

Communication Services

Starlink Wi-Fi is included on board and is available throughout the common areas and in each stateroom and suite.

Currency

The currency on board is the Australian Dollar. Guests will require a credit card (Visa, Mastercard or AMEX) or debit card to register your On Board account. All purchases on board will be charged back to your On Board account. Please note cash is not accepted on board.

Drinking Water

The water from your stateroom or suite is not suitable for drinking. Bottled water is supplied in your cabin. Please feel free to refill the container from the water tap available in the dining room or lounge.

Electricity

Each cabin has several 240 Volt electrical power points plus USB power inserts for phone charging etc. Hairdryers are provided for your convenience. If you require electrical medical equipment, please notify the reservation department as soon as possible.

Getting Around

For your comfort and safety, handrails are provided throughout the ship, and we recommend using them when walking between areas, especially while the paddlesteamer is underway.

A dedicated passenger lift services all decks, offering easy access for guests who prefer to avoid stairs or have mobility needs.

Laundry

There are no self-serve laundry facilities available for guests on board.

Meals

Meals aboard PS Australian Star are freshly prepared showcasing regional flavours and local produce from along the Murray.

All meals are served in the Randell Dining Room

- Breakfast: 7:30 am – 9:00 am
- Lunch: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
- Dinner: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Please note: Meal times may vary slightly depending on the day's cruising schedule.

Wheelhouse

Guests are welcome to visit the wheelhouse, please avoid times when the vessel is manoeuvring into or leaving port.

APT TRAVEL CENTRES

AUSTRALIA

Building 4, Level 1, 15 Cochranes Road, Moorabbin, VIC 3189

P: 1300 278 278 (within Australia)

W: aptouring.com

NEW ZEALAND

Level 1, 20 Augustus Terrace, Parnell, Auckland 1052

P: 0800 278 687 (within New Zealand)

W: aptouring.com

UNITED KINGDOM

3rd Floor, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AU

P: 0800 012 6686 (within the UK)

W: aptouring.com

NORTH AMERICA

Suite 530, World Trade Centre, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3E1

P: 1800 290 8687 (within North America)

W: aptouring.com



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