

11-day
Australia Tour
July 6 - 16, 2025



23RD BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS
LIVING
the good news

*featuring Sydney
and the Baptist World Congress in Brisbane*

Day 1, Sun, July 6 **Depart USA**
Today we depart on our journey to Brisbane.
Dinner and breakfast will be served aloft.
(meals aloft)

Day 2, Mon, July 7 International Date Line
Our journey continues as we fly over the
Pacific Ocean and cross the International
Date Line. (meals aloft)

Day 3, Tue, July 8 **Arrive Brisbane**
Upon arrival in Brisbane we are met by
our assistant and transfer to the **Mercure
Brisbane King George Square Hotel** (or
similar) with the remainder of the day to relax
and recuperate from our travel. (meals aloft)

Day 4, Wed, July 9 **Brisbane**
During our panoramic city tour of Brisbane,
we learn about the unique places and
architecture that characterize Queensland's
capital city. See the sights of historic
Brisbane, including views of St. Stephen's
Cathedral and Cathedral Square, as well
as the City Botanical Gardens. Travel under
Story Bridge, a steel cantilever bridge
spanning the Brisbane River that was first
opened in 1940 and was named one of the
Q150 Icons of Queensland in 2009 for its role
as a structure and engineering feat. Pass
by Queens Street Mall, Parliament House,

and City Hall. Enjoy the panoramic views
of Brisbane from Kangaroo Point Cliffs and
then return to the hotel with some time to
freshen up. This evening we participate in
the Opening Celebration of the 23rd Baptist
World Congress. (B)

Day 5, Thu, July 10 **Brisbane**
BWA activities will be scheduled throughout
the day and evening. Experience this one-
of-a-kind opportunity to gather with Baptist
sisters and brothers from around the world
and learn how God is at work in and through
our global family. Alternatively, there will be
an optional tour available. (B)

Day 6, Fri, July 11 **Brisbane**
Today we drive outside the city for a visit
to the Australia Zoo, owned by the family
of "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin. This
700-acre zoo has won many tourism
awards and contains a wide variety of
birds, mammals, and reptiles. Visitors can
view crocodile feedings and have hands-
on animal encounters. We have lunch at
Crikey Cafe before visiting the Glass House
Mountains - a group of rugged volcanic peaks
with sweeping views of Brisbane, Moreton
Island, and more. In Brisbane, BWA activities
continue throughout the day and evening.
(B,L)

Day 7, Sat, July 12 **Brisbane**
BWA activities will be available throughout the day. An optional tour will be offered as well. This evening we gather one more time with our global Baptist family and participate in the Closing Celebration. (B)

Day 8, Sun, July 13 **Brisbane / Sydney**
Following breakfast this morning, we transfer to the Brisbane airport for our flight to Sydney - the capital city of the state of New South Wales and the most populous city in Australia. Upon arrival we are met by our local guide and transfer to the **Parkroyal Darling Harbour Sydney Hotel** and have the remainder of the day at leisure. (B)

Day 9, Mon, July 14 **Sydney**
The magnificent Blue Mountains are named for the evaporating Eucalyptus oil that bathes the mountains in a blue haze, and today we'll get a closer look at them. On the way, we'll visit the Featherdale Wildlife Park which contains various species native to Australia and is known to be one of the world's largest collections of Australian fauna. We then drive to Echo Point to view the Three Sisters - a sacred spot for the local aboriginal community, with a tragic legend describing how these rock sisters formed. Here we take in the views of the incredible Jamison Valley and the unique rock formations. We walk one of the many trails that allows us to weave around a number of enchanting spots. Next we have a relaxing lunch at the *Echo Point Lookout Restaurant* while we take in sweeping mountain and valley views. From there we return to our hotel with the remainder of the evening at leisure. (B,L)

Day 10, Tue, July 15 **Sydney**
Today we have a panoramic city tour of Sydney. Set on the beautiful blue Sydney Harbour, this fast-paced city of cosmopolitan character features colonial history, stunning architecture, and superb waterways. We begin at the eastern beaches of Sydney, including Watsons Bay and Bondi Beach, and take a beautiful coastal walk along the bays. Then we make our way back towards the city centre with interesting viewpoints along the way and a drive through the historic district of Paddington and The Rocks, where we enjoy the magnificent views of this harbourside city. We continue to Circular Quay with time at leisure before walking to the Sydney Opera House for a tour of one of the world's most iconic buildings. This remarkable architectural achievement is UNESCO World Heritage listed and hosts over 1800 performances each year. Following our time here, we return to our hotel with some time to rest and freshen up. This evening, we have a memorable two-hour Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise before returning to our hotel for overnight. (B,D)

Day 11, Wed, July 16 **Sydney**
After breakfast we transfer to the Sydney airport for our return flight, arriving home later this evening. (B, meals aloft)

All sites listed in the itinerary will be covered but the sequence and days may be altered to adjust to religious holidays, special closings of sites, air schedules, etc.