

***Sydney Sideways***

***19-23 March 2020***

## Introduction

**CAPTIVATING HISTORY, SPARKLING HARBOUR & ICONIC SIGHTS**

*When you think of Sydney are the Opera House and Harbour Bridge first to jump into your thoughts? Well there are so many more fabulous places to discover. Along with Sydney's iconic landmarks, this tour will take you to places we've not visited before, such as historic Elizabeth Farm, the Justice and Police Museum, Sydney Jewish*

*Museum, Q-Station - Sydney's historic quarantine Station, Luna Park, Old Government House The Female Factory and much more when you discover Parramatta, for a unique take on Sydney, one of the most beautiful cities in the world.*

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| **Accommodation** | **Destination** | **Duration** |  |
| PARKROYAL Parramatta | Sydney | **4 Nights** |  |

## Price

$1895.00 per person twin/double share land content only

$2495.00 per person twin/double share fully inclusive of air fares and airport transfers

$350.00 Single Supplement

## Included

* 4 night’s motel accommodation
* 4 cooked motel breakfasts
* 3 motel two course of buffet dinners
* 4 included lunches and 1 high tea
* Lunch at Rosehill Bowling Club
* Guided tour at Elizabeth Farm
* Guided walking tour at Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney
* Guided tour at Justice & Police Museum
* Guided tour and lunch at Sydney Jewish Museum
* Guided tour at Q Station Retreat
* High tea and ride on the Ferris Wheel at Luna Park
* Sightseeing cruise with Captain Cook Cruises – Sydney
* Full day with local guide in Paramatta
* Guided tour of Old Government House
* Lunch at Lachlans Old Government House
* Entry to Experiment Farm
* Devonshire Tea cruise on the Nepean Belle Paddle wheeler
* Lunch at Penrith RSL Club

## Excluded

Airport transfers (unless fully inclusive package purchased)

Airfares (unless fully inclusive package purchased)

Meals not listed in the itinerary



## Day 1: Toowoomba-Sydney Thursday 19 March

### Day Itinerary

Welcome to our tour to Sydney with a difference. We’ll be based in **Parramatta**, the historic heart of Western Sydney. Home to a rich diversity of cultures and World Heritage listed convict sites, our tour to Parramatta will be full of surprises. After our morning picks ups, we make our way to Wellcamp Airport for our flight to **Sydney.** We are welcomed by our friendly coach captain and transferred to our lunch spot. Later we arrive at the remarkable **Elizabeth Farm**, Australia’s second oldest building, before unpacking and relaxing in our fantastic hotel, home for the next four nights.

### Overnight: PARKROYAL Parramatta

The stylish Parkroyal Parramatta hotel stands on the bank of the Parramatta River, which feeds into Sydney Harbour, in the centre of the premium shopping and entertainment belt on Church Street



### Activities

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| Elizabeth Farm |

### *Elizabeth Farm*

### This restful homestead hides a dark and stormy past. Built for the young military couple John and Elizabeth Macarthur and their growing family, Elizabeth Farm has witnessed major events in the growth of the colony, from the toppling of governors and convict rebellion to the birth of the Australian wool industry.

### Basis

Lunch and Dinner

### Included

Lunch at Rosehill Bowling Club | Dinner at the hotel

## Day 2: Museums and Gardens Friday 20 March

### Day Itinerary

Make our way into Sydney to visit the **Justice & Police Museum** where we have arranged a guided tour. Step into the dark side of Sydney’s past as we are drawn into a world of crime, punishment and policing. A vast archive of crime scene photography and mug shots reveal more than a century of underworld Sydney. From here, we visit the **Sydney Jewish Museum**, which will engage us with multisensory exhibits, historical artefacts and video footage. Our volunteer guide will give an interesting insight into the Jewish stories including the rich history of Judaism, the Jewish involvement in Australian Military and the Holocaust. We enjoy a light lunch and hear the **testimony of a Holocaust survivor**\*. Our afternoon is spent at **Sydney’s Royal Botanic Gardens**, a beautiful and cool retreat in the heart of the city. After our tour we travel back to our hotel for dinner. \*Holocaust talk subject to availability

### Activities

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| Justice & Police Museum |
| Sydney Jewish Museum |
| Royal Botanic Garden Sydney |

#### Justice & Police Museum

Step into the dark side of Sydney’s past with a visit to the Water Police station and courts that once made up one of the city’s busiest legal hubs. With its 1890’s holding cells, offices, charge room and courts, the museum draws visitors into a world of crime, punishment and policing, from bush rangers, sly grog and razor gangs to forensics. The museum's vast archive of crime scene photography & mug shots reveal more than a century of underworld Sydney.

#### Sydney Jewish Museum

#### The Sydney Jewish Museum’s tagline, “Where history has a voice”, distils the origins of the Museum and its mission that continues to transmit across generations. The objects within the collection and on display in the Museum’s exhibitions tell compelling stories of their owners and contribute to the narratives that the Museum tells within its walls.

#### Royal Botanic Garden Sydney

The Royal Botanic Gardens located in the heart of Sydney was established in 1816. It is the oldest scientific institution in Australia and is home to a vast collection of national and international plants. From rare and threatened plants of the world to the romantic rose garden, the themed garden areas show the diversity and beauty of nature. Situated on Sydney Harbour and adjacent to the Sydney CBD, the Sydney Opera House and the large public park lands of The Domain, the gardens are a popular attraction in Sydney.

### Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

### Included

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | Lunch at Sydney Jewish Museum

## Day 3: Manly, Q-Station & High Tea Saturday 21 March

### Day Itinerary

This morning we head to **Manly**. For over 150 years, the **Quarantine Station**, was for many, the beginning of a new life in Australia after making the gruelling and extensive journey from their homelands. Uncover the tales of love and loss, culture and social change and history and progress of Sydney. Next, make our way to **iconic Luna Park**. Some of us might like to take a spin on the **Ferris Wheel** before indulging in a delicious **High Tea** with one of the best views of Sydney before us. We cross the Sydney Harbour Bridge to Circular Quay for our **sightseeing cruise**. Capture the moment with your camera as we cruise close to the Sydney Opera House, past waterfront mansions and under the famous bridge. Tonight, jump on the hop on hop off bus to the local shops or enjoy the dining precinct, **“Eat Street”** for dinner.

### Activities

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| Manly |
| Q Station |
| Luna Park Sydney |
| Captain Cook Cruises Harbour Story PM |

#### Manly

Located in the northern reaches of Sydney, Manly is Sydney’s premier tourist area. The region's beautiful long sandy beaches and hidden little coves attract lovers of water sports and walkers who enjoy exploring the many well-defined coastal trails.

#### Q Station

#### Q Station is a hidden gem located at North Head on the shores of Sydney Harbour in Manly. Sydney's former Quarantine Station provides a unique look into a slice of Sydney’s history and at the same time delivers up a destination that cannot be replicated anywhere. Hidden amongst native Australian bush land with stunning views overlooking Sydney Harbour and the skyline of modern Sydney on the horizon, you can feel like you are removed from the hustle and bustle of city, but it is just a short ferry ride away.

#### Luna Park Sydney

Luna Park Sydney is an entertainment precinct of many faces. The superbly restored fun park features concerts at the Big Top, classy cuisine at The Deck and spectacular views from the Tango Train or Ferris Wheel rides.

#### Captain Cook Cruises Harbour Story PM

Captain Cook Cruises Harbour Story PM is an approximately 2-hour quality sightseeing cruise experience. The cruise includes refreshments and an entertaining, personalised commentary on the people, places and events that have made Sydney Harbour one of the most beautiful and exciting harbours in the world.

### Basis

Bed and Breakfast

### Included

Breakfast at hotel | High tea at Luna Park

## Day 4: Tours, Female Factory and Farm Sunday 22 March

### Day Itinerary

Let’s explore Parramatta and what better way than with a **local specialist**. We learn about the rich history and heritage of this culturally diverse suburb. Our sightseeing begins at the oldest convict women’s site in Australia, the **Female Factory**. We hear some powerful stories of the lives of the convict women and the constant mischief they got up to. The convict built **Old Government House** is next with an interesting tour and delicious lunch at **Lachlan’s.** We then discover one of the oldest standing residences in Australia, **Experiment Farm Cottage**. The historic house was built by convict farmer James Ruse. The cottage has many of its original features, period furnishings and a permanent exhibition telling the story of the area from indigenous times, Ruse’s tenure and the present. This afternoon we have free time in Parramatta before our farewell dinner in our hotel.

### Activities

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| Female Factory  Old Government House  Experiment Farm Cottage |

#### Female Factory

Australia’s first Female Factory was established near the southern boundary of what is now known as [Prince Alfred Park, Parramatta](https://theoldparramattan.wordpress.com/2016/06/01/prince-alfred-park-parramatta/), circa 1802. From its humble inception, the Factory was intended to be a place where unassigned female convicts were gainfully employed in tasks that were beneficial to the colony, where their basic need for shelter was provided and where ‘corrupting influences’ could be kept at b­­­ay.

#### Old Government House

World Heritage listed Old Government House is the oldest surviving public building in Australia. Built by convicts, it became the decision-making centre of the colony and served as the ‘country residence’ for the first ten Governors of Australia.

***Experiment Farm Cottage***

The site of the first land grant, where by 1791 James Ruse had successfully farmed the 30 acre site as an experiment in self-sufficiency, proving that a new settler could feed and shelter his family with relatively little assistance to get started.

### Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

### Included

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | Lunch at Lachlan’s Government House

## Day 5: Nepean Belle – Sydney to Toowoomba Monday 23 March

### Day Itinerary

This morning we board the romantic old-world style paddle wheeler, **Nepean Belle** for a delightful morning tea. Reflecting the grace and charm of yesteryear, the “Belle’s” interiors are beautifully panelled with stained timbers featuring cedar and teak. We enjoy lunch in **Penrith** before we are transferred to Sydney Airport. We arrive home with new friends and fantastic memories from a wonderful holiday to Parramatta.

### Activities

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| Nepean Belle Cruise |

***Nepean Belle***

On the morning Gorge Cruise you are treated to unique views of the Nepean Gorge and base of the Blue Mountains National Park, a largely unexplored wonderland of natural flora and native wildlife. Enjoy fresh locally made fluffy scones, served alongside a pot of strawberry jam and fresh vanilla bean cream, hot brewed coffee and loose-leaf tea as you relax and immerse yourself in the spectacular natural surrounds of the Nepean Gorge.

### Basis

Bed and Breakfast

### Included

Breakfast at hotel | Lunch at Penrith RSL



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