



PLATINUM JOURNEYS

AUTUMN IN BRISBANE

Rediscover the vibrant and fast-growing city of Brisbane and surrounds. Making our way at a leisurely pace, we then marvel at the river that curls its way around the landscape, hinting to the easy outdoor lifestyle that awaits us.

9 Days - Sunday 10th May to Monday 18th May 2020



Day 1: HOME - BATHURST Sun 10 May 20 (D)

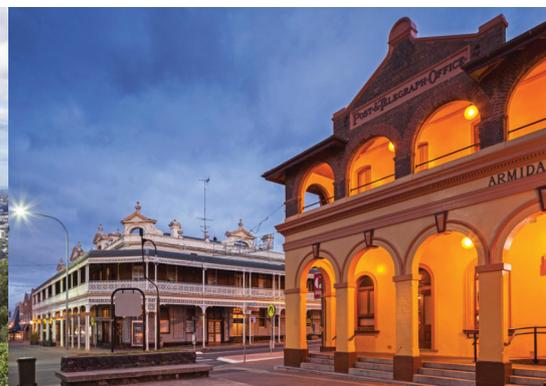
Welcome to our Autumn tour to Brisbane. After our morning pickups, we hit the road for Bathurst. We have a travel day ahead to sit back, relax and get to know your fellow travellers. We arrive in Bathurst, where our hotel is located on the Mt Panorama Race Track so before we check in, we'll go for a "spin" (lunch at own expense / dinner in hotel).

Overnight: Rydges Mt Panorama Bathurst (PH: 02 6338 1888)

Day 2: BATHURST - ARMIDALE Mon 11 May 20 (BLD)

After breakfast, we continue our journey north, stopping in at Mudgee Honey Haven to experience some local honey and mead before a delightful morning tea. Lunch today is at Merriwa RSL Club. We arrive in picturesque Armidale, a town mixed with historic buildings dating back to the 1860s and modern contemporary centre and stunning surroundings. (breakfast & dinner in hotel / lunch included).

Overnight: Country Comfort Armidale (PH: 02 6772 8511)



Day 3: NEW ENGLAND Tue 12 May 20 (BD)

Exploring Armidale today, we are joined by a local expert who will showcase the gorgeous town. Our tour also includes a visit to the University of New England. The campus has many charming buildings, but none more beautiful than historic mansion. In the countryside, just outside of town, sits Saumarez Homestead, a stunning Edwardian mansion. With most of its original furnishings still intact, the homestead gives us an authentic glimpse of 19th century family life on the land. After our guided tour we'll enjoy a delicious afternoon tea and stroll the old-fashioned gardens (breakfast & dinner in hotel / lunch at own expense).

Overnight: Country Comfort Armidale (PH: 02 6772 8511)

Day 4: ARMIDALE - BRISBANE Wed 13 May 20 (BD)

We depart Armidale and continue north to Glen Innes, known fondly as "the land of the Beardies". Settled by Scotts the town regards itself as the heart of the New England Highlands and some of the street signs are bilingual so keep a look out. From here we travel to Tenterfield, referred to as the birthplace of the nation. It was here that Sir Henry Parkes made his famous speech, which set in motion a popular movement resulting in the federation of Australia. From Tenterfield we cross the border into Queensland and make our way through Warwick to Brisbane. Relax and unpack before dinner as this will be our home for the next five nights (breakfast & dinner in hotel / lunch at own expense).

Overnight: Pacific Hotel Brisbane (PH: 07 3831 6177)

Day 5: HISTORIC BRISBANE Thu 14 May 20 (BLD)

Unlock the stories of Brisbane's historic past with interesting and spooky experiences. We start the day visiting Toowong Cemetery. It's here we learn the trials and tribulations of the early settlers and founding families in Brisbane, the creation of the early cemeteries in Brisbane and the fascinating grave symbolism. While the Toowong Cemetery officially opened in 1875, some burials took place from 1871.

The most notable burial was Queensland's second governor, Colonel Samuel Blackall. Located on the slopes of Mount Coot-tha it is only a short drive to reach our lunch venue, Kuta Café. The views from the top are superb and on a clear day you can see the distant line of Moreton and Stradbroke Islands, the Glasshouse Mountains to the north, the mountains behind the Gold Coast to the south and Brisbane, with the river winding through, at our feet.

Heading back down Mount Coot-tha we visit Sir Thomas Brisbane Planetarium. The Planetarium is home to the Cosmic Skydome - a 12.5-metre-diameter projection dome where we will enjoy a show. Afterwards see the Sundial Courtyard located on the eastern side of the Planetarium, the Sundial Courtyard features a giant concrete, steel and glass sundial, which is used to tell the time when the Sun is shining, and is accurate to within 10 minutes. The Sundial Courtyard is a great spot to sit, relax and take in the surrounds.

After our day of touring we return to the hotel for dinner. We haven't finished yet, tonight we are in for our spooky experience at the Old Boggo Road Gaol for the ghosts and gallows tour! Hear tales of Boggo Road's gruesome gallows, and ghost stories from warders and inmates dating back to the 1930s. Don't forget the key as there will be time to explore the cellblocks (breakfast & dinner at hotel / lunch included).

Overnight: Pacific Hotel Brisbane (PH: 07 3831 6177)

Day 6: STRADBROKE ISLAND Fri 15 May 20 (BLD)

There's so much to explore and experience on Stradbroke Island, from magnificent surf beaches, calm blue bays and tranquil lakes, 'Straddie' is the perfect day trip. Joining the ferry, we embark on the short crossing to Dunwich. Our first visit is to the Historical Museum with an extensive history covering the Quandamooka people, convict history, shipwrecks and maritime history of the Island. A local identity will join us for an introduction with stories relating to the Quandamooka people. A sightseeing drive through to Point Lookout has us disembarking to view the coastline below. If you feel energetic, take the Gorge Walk which follows the coastline for the best vantage points. Lunch today is at the Stradbroke Island Beach Hotel which has stunning views out towards the ocean. The ferry transfers us back to the mainland and we return to our hotel for dinner (breakfast & dinner at hotel / lunch included).

Overnight: Pacific Hotel Brisbane (PH: 07 3831 6177)

Day 7: BRISBANE TOURING Sat 16 May 20 (B)

This morning we visit Newstead House, one of the city's oldest surviving homes. We'll be given a talk on the house and free time to wander at our own pace before a lovely morning tea on the verandah overlooking the Brisbane River. Walking down to the property's own cruise dock, we join a gentle cruise to Southbank. Sit back and relax as our captain will give an informative commentary while we cruise past Brisbane's most iconic sights including the Kangaroo Point Cliffs, City Centre and the Story Bridge. Disembarking at scenic Southbank, we enjoy free time here before our coach collects up and we return to our hotel. You may like to jump on the Brisbane Wheel or wander the Collective Markets which are held at today. With an eclectic mix of art, vintage clothing, food stalls and live music, the market is a haven for unique finds (breakfast at hotel / lunch & dinner at own expense).

Overnight: Pacific Hotel Brisbane (PH: 07 3831 6177)

Day 8: SCENIC RIM Sun 17 May 20 (BLD)

Today we escape to the Scenic Rim. Surrounded by an imposing volcanic mountain range, dating back millions of years, the area is home to stunning national parks, valleys of colourful produce and quaint country towns. At Towri Sheep Cheese we'll be entertained with a sheep-milking demonstration and enjoy an impressive array of gourmet cheese tastings for morning tea. In a wonderful rustic setting we will feel right at home with our engaging hosts. Lunch has been arranged at Dugandan Hotel, in the vibrant country town of Boonah. Next, we visit one of the regions most interesting places – Summer Land Camel Farm. We learn about the history of camels in Australia and the powerful immune proteins contained in camel milk on an interesting tour. We even have a chance to meet or feed the camels. Following afternoon tea, we return to Brisbane (breakfast & dinner in hotel / lunch included).

Overnight: Pacific Hotel Brisbane (PH: 07 3831 6177)

Day 9: BRISBANE- HOME Mon 18 May 20 (B)

We farewell Brisbane as we make our way to the airport for our flight to Canberra. We arrive home with a suitcase full of memories from our magnificent tour to Brisbane (breakfast in hotel / lunch at own expense).

Tour Cost: \$2995 per person twin share/double or \$3495 solo traveller



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.(B) Breakfast. (L) Lunch. (D) Dinner. Alterations to the itinerary may occur – a final confirmed itinerary will be provided with your travel documentation approximately 3 weeks prior to departure.

TOUR COST INCLUDES

Air-conditioned, restroom equipped vehicle with experienced driver/guide & hostess.

Twin share accommodation.

All entry fees to sightseeing activities as listed in the itinerary.

Airport transfer from Canberra to Bega Valley.

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare from Brisbane to Canberra.

Travel insurance – Platinum Journeys strongly advise taking out travel insurance.

Items of personal nature eg laundry/phone and any optional extras/trips listed in the itinerary.

All beverages and meals not indicated in the itinerary.

For bookings please contact

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info@platinumjourneys.com.au

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CONDITIONS OF BOOKING

All bookings must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00 per person
The balance and final payment must be received 60 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATION POLICY

More than 60 days notice: full refund less \$500.00 deposit
14 days to 60 days before tour : 50% refund
Within 14 days of tour : no refund

Platinum Journeys strongly recommend all passengers take out travel insurance in case of illness or accident.