



## INSTANT EXPERT

A travel professional's guide to  
Australia, New Zealand & Papua New Guinea

Abercrombie & Kent





## There is travel and there is Abercrombie & Kent

A&K introduces the natural beauty and welcoming cultures of Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. With nearly 30 years experience, A&K's office in Australia ensures arrangements are seamless right throughout the region. Whether exploring the Great Barrier Reef, visiting a remote cattle station, sampling New Zealand's adventure pursuits and accommodation, exploring the uncharted territory of PNG or enjoying the latest in fine dining, A&K's knowledgeable team will inspire your client. Our Insider Access opportunities embrace the need felt by today's discerning travellers to connect in a meaningful way with global destinations and cultures. A&K is committed to providing exclusive and up-close experiential travel in unmatched comfort and style. When travelling with A&K, each itinerary is designed exclusively for the individual and their travel companion. Our focus is on creating private and group journeys to accommodate individual interests and needs. To travel with A&K is to experience the unbelievable, to have the feeling of being in the right place at the right time, every single time. We go to the ends of the earth to create journeys that change lives.

**Geoffrey Kent**

Founder, Chairman and CEO  
of the Abercrombie & Kent Group of Companies

Abercrombie & Kent is proud to provide a true point of difference in Australia, New Zealand & Papua New Guinea.

### ◆ **Security and reassurance**

Our 24 hour contact line means round-the-clock assistance for your clients when they are in the destination. We have public liability insurance of US\$2 million.

### ◆ **Experienced staff and guides**

A&K's detailed knowledge of the countries we operate in guarantees our itineraries are distinctive and authentic.

### ◆ **Insider Access**

A&K's ability to satisfy your client's demand to delve into the culture of the country they are visiting by providing unique behind-the-scenes experiences.

### ◆ **Long standing local relationships**

A&K can provide priority check-in, preferential treatment, more frequent room upgrades, flexibility on checkout times and up-to-date local advice.

**Abercrombie & Kent**

Visit [www.akdmc.com](http://www.akdmc.com) for further details



# About Australia

This country of startling diversity incorporates the arid outback of Central Australia, the rainforests and coral reefs of the tropical north, the pristine wilderness of Tasmania, bountiful vineyards, marine delights and rugged coastlines in the west and the fertile eastern seaboard. This vast nation possesses 36,735 kms (22,812 miles) of coastline, more than 3,000 national reserves and 18 World Heritage sites. It's a brilliant combination of natural wonders, fabulous food and wine, culture, history, vibrant cities and laidback friendly locals.

## Best time to travel

A country as vast as Australia has a wide range of climatic patterns and huge temperature variations from north to south. No matter what time of the year you choose there is a destination in Australia that is ideal to visit. The northerly regions of Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia experience a tropical, hot, humid 'wet' season from December to March. While snow only ever falls on high peaks in the southern states and never in cities, conditions can be crisp in the south from June to August. September and October are mild in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia yet cool enough to visit Uluru. The wildflowers of Western Australia are in bloom and the rainy season will not yet have reached Cairns or the Top End.

♦ **Best time to travel:** October to April

♦ **Capital City:** Canberra

♦ **Currency:** Australian Dollar

♦ **Visa:** Valid visa required

We have developed some amazing themed itineraries including, but not limited to, the following:

## Gastronomic Journeys

Australia is blessed with a vibrant and contemporary culinary scene matched with outstanding natural produce. A&K's gastronomic journeys reveal gourmet secrets with executive chefs, winemakers and produce merchants on hand to share their passion.

- ♦ Enjoy Tasmania's world class accommodation with private wine tastings, gourmet picnics, fresh produce, award winning restaurant dining plus a private curator-led tour of the Museum of Old and New Art (MONA).
- ♦ An extraordinary journey through South Australia provides ample opportunity for wine tasting in the Barossa Valley, home-cooked outback fare, gourmet meals at Southern Ocean Lodge and a chef-led mini-masterclass showcasing Kangaroo Island's rich local produce.
- ♦ An hour's drive from Melbourne, the Mornington Peninsula is both an ideal escape from the city and a place to enjoy the good things in life. Boutique vineyards abound, characterful restaurants and charming providores plus spectacular beaches.
- ♦ The Gourmet South West of Australia affords a magnificent coastline and is home to world-class vineyards and gourmet produce. Chauffeur driven in comfort between wineries whilst meeting winemakers is a decadent delight.

## Active Journeys

Enjoy expertly-planned walking and 'glamping' (glamorous camping) adventures whilst being accompanied by skilled guides, eager to share their extensive knowledge of local landscape, history, wildlife and flora. Experience the magic of the great outdoors in fully-supported style.

- ♦ Experience Victoria's iconic Great Ocean Road and traverse the most picturesque areas on the Twelve Apostles Eco Walk.
- ♦ Named for the early Aboriginal campfires along the coast, The Bay of Fires is one of Tasmania's most breathtaking locations. Pristine beaches, bushland and coastal wilderness provide the backdrop to an outstanding walking tour.
- ♦ Bike ride through the picturesque farmland and forest along the East Gippsland Rail Trail in Victoria. Take a journey over rivers, past rich pastureland and through forests teeming with wildlife.
- ♦ The Arkaba Wilderness Safari adventure in South Australia offers both deluxe swag camping under the stars and gracious hospitality with the backdrop of rolling hills and open vistas.

## Family Journeys

A&K is mindful of the needs of both parents and offspring, offering a range of expertly-designed itineraries ensuring a variety of adventurous, entertaining activities in some fascinating and diverse locations.

- ♦ Australia's Red Heart is the perfect school holiday break. There's plenty to do with a range of family-friendly activities from quad biking and four wheel driving to hiking and bush tucker.
- ♦ Experience an ancient land and the indigenous people who have inhabited it for thousands of years on a unique journey to Australia's Top End with exciting adventure activities for young and old.
- ♦ Looking for a school holiday getaway where sunshine is guaranteed almost year round? Then head to the historic pearling town of Broome in the remote Kimberley region for activity aplenty. Search for dinosaur footprints in the sand, learn from a local about bush medicine and practice the art of crabbing.



## Lizard Island Research Station: behind the scenes A&K exclusive

A visit to world renowned Lizard Island can include an exclusive behind the scenes tour of the A&K Philanthropy supported Lizard Island Research Station led by either Dr Anne Hoggett or Dr Lyle Vail, directors of the Lizard Island Research Station, the only field station operated by the Australian Museum.

Watch Australian and international marine scientists at work and have a first hand look at a range of marine research projects, many of which utilise the state of the art seawater aquarium system enabling controlled experiments with living reef organisms.



It is easy to understand why Papua New Guinea is considered one of the most diverse nations in the South Pacific. It's untamed with a wonderful variety of complex cultures and awe-inspiring landscapes. The Tari Basin is home to the Huli Clans, one of the most culturally intact indigenous groups in PNG. Visit both the Blackwater Lakes area and the Middle Sepik onboard a cruise vessel. River banks are dotted with traditional villages, each with its own spirit house.

### Best time to travel

Colourful Papua New Guinea enjoys a hot and tropical climate at sea level, cooling towards the highlands which also cause climatic variation from one area to another. The majority of the rain falls between December and March during the northwest monsoons, although Port Moresby enjoys a dry season at this time. There is frost and occasional snow falls on the highest mountain peaks. The North-West of the country experiences monsoon seasons from December to March. The South-East is affected by monsoons from May to October.

- ♦ **Best time to travel:** March to November
- ♦ **Capital city:** Port Moresby
- ♦ **Currency:** Kina
- ♦ **Visa:** Valid visa required



### Highlights

- ♦ Visit a local village in **Mt Hagen** and witness a fascinating cultural performance.
- ♦ Stay in dramatically located wilderness lodges in the **highland regions**.
- ♦ Enjoy a harbour cruise and snorkelling around coral islands at **Madang**.
- ♦ The dense forests of **Tari** are home to high altitude orchids, suspension bridges, waterfalls and boast over 13 species of exotic Bird of Paradise. Most display striking colours and vivid plumage which distinguish them as some of the world's most dramatic and attractive birds.
- ♦ The **Karawari region** is home to rich and varied flora and avifauna. Travel the jungle-fringed waterways of the Karawari River and its tributaries.
- ♦ Discover the unique **Sepik Spirit** 'floating lodge' inspired by the local spirit houses.
- ♦ Visit the Southern Highlands, home to the **Huli Wigmen** and the colourful Tari market.



# About New Zealand

A kaleidoscope of rolling hills, jagged mountain peaks, roaring rivers, steaming volcanoes, sweeping coastlines, glaciers and lush green rainforests, New Zealand possesses astounding diversity. On the one hand, it is an ideal hideaway inspiring rejuvenation amidst natural springs, on the other it beckons adventure as home to a multitude of thrill-seeking activities. Add to this a rich Maori heritage, a thriving arts culture and delectable cuisine - the result is one fabulous destination.

## Best time to travel

New Zealand is enjoyable year-round depending on your activity. The north is subtropical and the south temperate. The traditional time to travel is September to April during the warmer summer months. From December to February, The Bay of Islands and Auckland are a water lover's paradise, with wonderful beaches, swimming, diving, fishing, sailing, and windsurfing. The central and southern regions of Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown are cool during the winter creating scenic snow-capped peaks and an excellent ski season in the mountains.

- ◆ **Best time to travel:** October to April
- ◆ **Capital city:** Wellington
- ◆ **Currency:** New Zealand Dollar
- ◆ **Visa:** Valid visa required

## Highlights

- ◆ Venture to **Abel Tasman National Park**, renowned for its sculptured granite cliffs and world-famous coastal track.
- ◆ **World Heritage Listed Milford Sound** winds through awesome mountains and canyons. Explore its hidden coves and wildlife.
- ◆ See the geothermal attractions and Maori culture of **Rotorua**.
- ◆ Spectacular alpine scenery, award winning vineyards and world class lodges in **Queenstown**.
- ◆ **Christchurch** is a quintessentially English city with gracious homes, manicured gardens, venerable oaks, elms and limes. Enjoy a punt on the River Avon.
- ◆ Turquoise oceans, sandy beaches, superb boating, abundant fishing and magnificent scenery characterise the near 150 islands that make up the **Bay of Islands**.




## National Kiwi Trust: behind the Scenes A&K exclusive

Kiwi Encounter at Rainbow Springs offers an amazing "behind the scenes" tour acquainting you with New Zealand's exclusive kiwi bird. Begin with a brief introduction in the incubation and hatchery room before continuing to the kitchen where the artificial diet for the young kiwi is prepared. Visit the nursery room filled with "brooders" - breeding units where the kiwi chicks stay until they reach approximately 400gms in body size. Next is the indoor nocturnal area where kiwi enclosures are completely open with no partitions between the birds and visitors.



# Australia, New Zealand & Papua New Guinea

-  A&K Office
-  State Capital city
-  Capital city



## Recommended Itineraries



### Classic Australia

14 Days | Melbourne – Kangaroo Island – Barossa Valley – Uluru – Palm Cove – Lizard Island – Sydney



### Classic New Zealand

11 Days | Auckland – Bay of Islands – Rotorua – Christchurch – Queenstown



### Rugged Papua New Guinea

14 Days | Port Moresby – Mt Hagen – Karawari – Ambua – Madang – Port Moresby

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