### **Full Day Tour**

# Canberra - Australia's Capital City Icons



# Highlights

- Berrima
- Mt. Ainslie
- Australian War Memorial
- Parliament House
- Carillion Bell Tower

# Itinerary

#### **En Route**

You're travelling to Canberra today – Australia's capital city and home to a number of important landmarks and historic buildings. To ensure you get the most out of the day, your Driver Guide will provide expert commentary throughout the journey.

#### **Berrima**

On the way to Canberra you'll stop in the quaint little township of Berrima. Here you can treat yourself to morning tea (own expense) or take a short stroll through the village and along the river.

#### Mt. Ainslie

Before you get to Canberra you'll visit the summit of Mt. Ainslie in Canberra's National Park. From here you can take in the view of this unique city and surrounding mountain ranges. A great spot to take a few photos.

#### **Australian War Memorial**

Your first stop in Canberra is the Australian War Memorial, our memorial to those who lost their lives in the wars of the Commonwealth of Australia. You'll be deeply moved as you wander through the shrine and come to realise the enduring impact that war has had on our society.

#### National Museum of Australia

Now you'll visit the National Museum of Australia where Australia's social history is preserved and interpreted. While the building itself is an architectural landmark, it is the Museum's collection that will amaze you. Please note at times this may alternate with a visit to the National Gallery of Australia.

#### Parliament House

Next you'll take a guided tour of Australia's Parliament House. Subject to sitting times, you may even get to witness the Houses of Parliament in session. Opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1988, the building was designed to represent two boomerangs and boasts an 81 metre flagpole at its peak. During the tour you'll visit many of its 4,700 rooms and learn more of its architecture, history, artwork and the Australian democratic process.

#### The Lodge

After Parliament House you'll take a look at the Prime Minister's official residence, the Lodge. Built in the mid-1920s, the Lodge is a 40 room Georgian style mansion set on 18,000 square metres of majestic gardens. There's many a story to be told of the Prime Ministers who have lived in the Lodge and your Driver Guide will share some of these stories with you along the way.

#### **National Library**

You'll also get to see the National Library, the origins of which go back to 1901, however the building that you see today was opened in 1968. Located on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin, it is the largest reference library in Australia with up to 10V million materials on its bookshelves.

#### High Court of Australia

You'll also see the High Court of Australia located in the Parliamentary Triangle on Lake Burley Griffin. In the Australian system, the High Court sits at the top of the hierarchy and is the final court of appeal. The building was opened in 1980 and the majority of sittings are held here.

#### Lake Burley Griffin

As you drive around each of the key landmarks in Canberra you'll see much of its centrepiece, the man-made Lake Burley Griffin. While many national institutions are located on its shores, the Lake and its beautiful parklands, walking tracks, cafés and restaurants, provide the ideal location for recreation.

#### Carillion Bell Tower

In the heart of Lake Burley Griffin, on Aspen Island, you'll see the Carillon Bell Tower. This stunning gift from the British Government to mark 50 years as the nation's capital, stands 50 metres tall and is home to 55 bronze bells. The chiming of the bells can be heard across Lake Burley Griffin into the heart of Canberra city.

## Free hotel pick-ups

Hotel pick-ups are available free of charge if you do not wish to meet at the main departure point. Hotel pick up times vary so please advise us if your required the service. Hotel pick-ups must be requested with your booking.

Note: Hotel pick-ups must be requested with your booking.

This tour departs from AAT Kings Tours, The Star, Level B2, Coach Terminal, Pirrama Road, Pyrmont. Please look out for the AAT Kings office inside the coach terminal.

# **Full Day Tour**

Approximately 13 hours

#### **Departs**

8.00am Mon, Wed & Fri from The Star, level B2, coach terminal, Pirrama Road or earlier from your hotel

#### Returns

9.00pm approximately

#### **Inclusions**

- Experienced Driver Guides
- Detailed and informative commentary
- Travel in an air-conditioned coach
- Drinking Water

### What to bring

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sunglasses, hat and sunscreen
- Water bottle
- Camera
- Jacket in the cooler months

### Fitness requirement

Low level of fitness required.

#### Schedule

Times are approximate. Schedule may be rearranged on the day.

**8.00am** Depart Sydney

**9.45am** Berrima (morning tea)

12.15pm Mt. Ainslie Lookout

**12.45pm** Lunch

**1.30pm** Australian War Museum

**2.15pm** National Museum or National Gallery

**3.25pm** Parliament House

**6.05pm** Goulburn (meal break)

**9.00pm** Sydney