

SoVA Down Under: Sustainability and Social Responsibility in the Visual Arts, in Australia

Itinerary Highlights

Day 1 – 10 Sydney

Guided walking tours

Welcome to Sydney! Accompanied by your local guides, explore The Rocks area to learn about Sydney's colonial and convict settlement history. Visit Chinatown, Darling Harbour, Circular Quay and Manly to experience the diversity of Sydney's suburbs.

Explore Sydney with your indigenous guide

Learn about the way of life of Australia's Indigenous people, including tribal ceremonial practices, astronomy, and bush tucker. Your guide will share modern interpretations of rock carvings and discuss the significance of Aboriginal ochre painting, designs, and symbology.

Australian National Maritime Museum

Through a changing program of exhibitions, explore Australia's maritime history and connect the stories, objects, people and places that are part of the country's narrative.

Museum of Contemporary Art

Take in the paintings, photography, sculptures, works on paper and moving images, and significant representation of works by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, while focusing on artistic and curatorial practices.

Street art tour of Newtown

Discover the vibrant, and at times controversial, street art scene in one of Sydney's gritty, bohemian suburbs.



Brett Whiteley's art studio

Visit the workplace and home of famous Australian artist, Brett Whiteley, with his unfinished paintings, art

equipment, and collections of reference books, and the graffiti wall covered with quotes and images. The gallery displays some of his works: paintings, drawings, sculpture, and graphics. Enjoy the secret garden, a much-loved oasis created by Wendy Whiteley, Brett's wife and muse.

Sydney Theatre Company tour and performance

Your backstage tour of the Sydney Theatre Company will be a hands-on, interactive experience investigating all aspects of the production process, from programming and design presentations to set and costume creation, and bump-in. Enjoy an evening performance.

Royal Botanic Garden educational tour

Be immersed in the complex workings of Australia's oldest botanic garden, and one of the leading scientific institutions in the world.

Art Gallery of New South Wales

Visit one of Australia's leading art museums, holding significant collections from Australia, Europe and Asia.

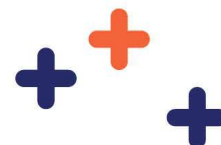


Tour and performance at the Sydney Opera House

See inside the orchestra pit, explore a dressing room, and get a glimpse into the demanding, passionate, dramatic (and sometimes scandalous) world of the Sydney Opera House. Then experience a live evening show!

Taronga Zoo guided tour

See native Australian wildlife and learn about the zoo's conservation efforts. Taronga believes that through education they can inspire and create behavioral change to support species conservation and habitat preservation.



Day 11 – 18 Brisbane

Traditional Aboriginal welcome

Be welcomed to “country” by a local Aboriginal person and spend some time hearing about indigenous Queensland.

Introduction to Australian history and society

Learn more of the discovery of Australia, building of the nation and the country’s history since 1901.

Anthropology Museum (University of Queensland)

The museum houses a wealth of artefacts of the Australian Aboriginal and Pacific peoples and has a significant photographic collection.

Queensland College of Art (Griffith University)

Visit the creative home of Brisbane’s up and coming artists, touring their studios, design labs, galleries, and exhibitions.

Brisbane Powerhouse visit and performance

Queensland’s home of contemporary culture is housed in a 1920s power station on the river. It hosts independent, emerging, and established artists alike in the fields of music, comedy, dance, film, visual arts, cabaret, circus, and theatre. Tour the venue and take in a show.

Queensland Art Gallery and Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA)

Take your time to explore Queensland’s premier visual arts institution which holds over 17,000 works of historical, modern, and contemporary art. The Art Gallery was established in 1895 and moved into its current architecturally acclaimed building in 1982. The Gallery of Modern Art, situated adjacent, opened in 2006.

QUT Art Museum

Visit one of Queensland’s premier visual art galleries. With a focus on contemporary art, the museum includes internally curated exhibitions, commissioned projects, and touring exhibitions.

Metro Arts

Visit an organization that develops and presents contemporary arts from a heritage-listed building. Metro Arts also supports the wider artistic community with venue hire for creative businesses, photo shoots, rehearsals, exhibitions, performances, auditions, and forums.

Superordinary and Brisbane Street Art Festival (BSAF)

Superordinary enables BSAF to showcase and support the vibrant public art culture in Brisbane. Tour the premises, take part in an aerosol or other painting workshop, and hear from some of the resident artists.

Day 19 – 22 Noosa Heads and Lady Elliot Island

Eumundi Craft Markets

Step into an ever-evolving collaboration of talented locals. The Original Eumundi Markets is the biggest and the best art and craft market in Australia, perfect for souvenirs!

Lady Elliot Island eco resort

Take a short flight to Lady Elliot Island which is situated within a highly protected ‘Green Zone’ at the southern tip of the World Heritage Listed Great Barrier Reef. Spend an unforgettable three nights on this coral cay that is a sanctuary for over 1,200 species of marine life and is known for its abundance of manta rays, turtles, and unspoiled coral reef. During your intimate island stay, get up close to marine creatures, including sea cucumbers, starfish, sea urchins, coral, clams, crabs, and colorful fish by snorkeling, beach combing, and taking a guided reef walk.



Day 23 – 24 Brisbane to USA

Travel back to Brisbane and home

The program wraps up with a group farewell dinner in Brisbane on the final night before you return home.