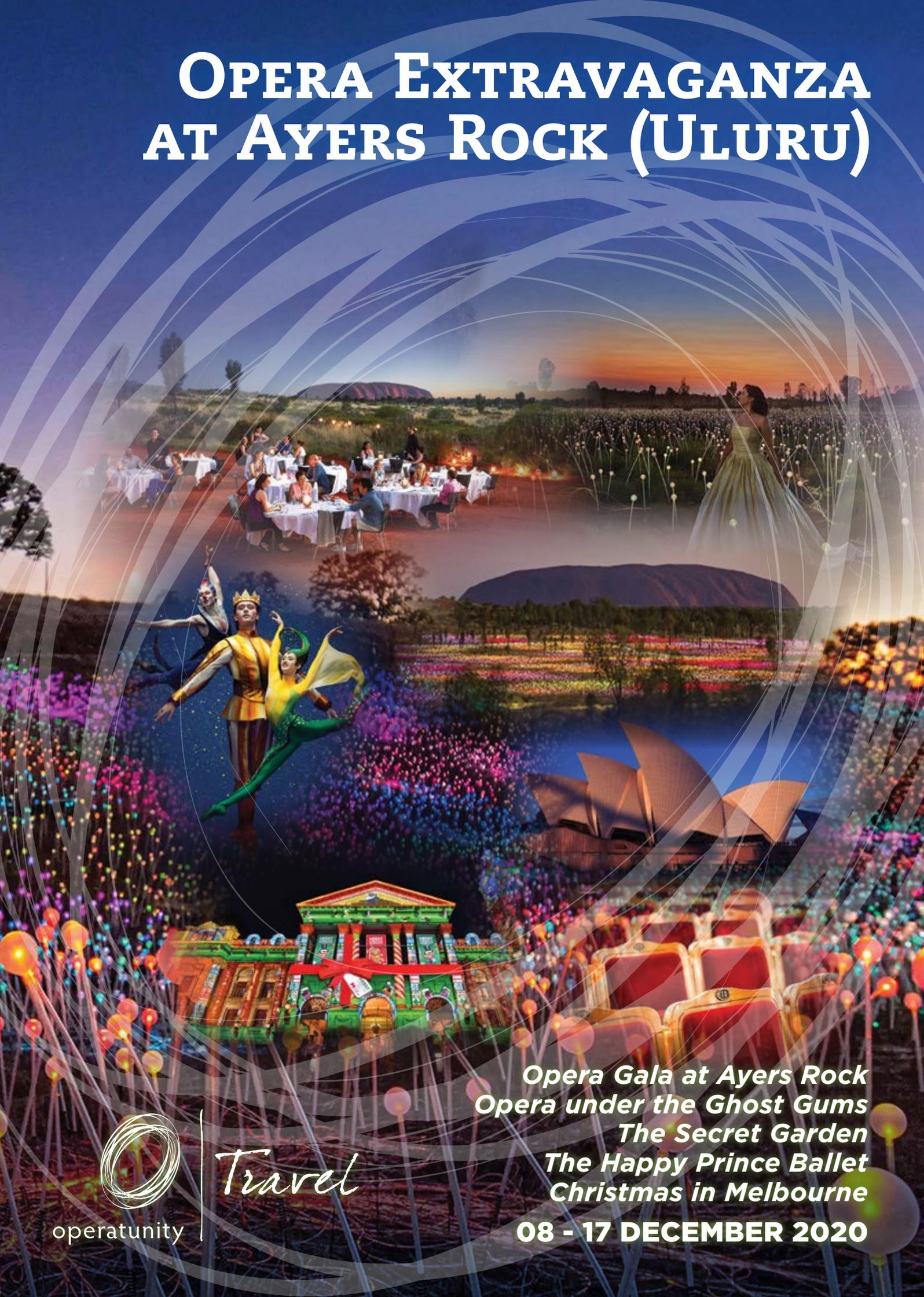


# OPERA EXTRAVAGANZA AT AYERS ROCK (ULURU)



*Opera Gala at Ayers Rock*  
*Opera under the Ghost Gums*  
*The Secret Garden*  
*The Happy Prince Ballet*  
*Christmas in Melbourne*

**08 - 17 DECEMBER 2020**



operatunity

*Travel*

# OPERA EXTRAVAGANZA AT AYERS ROCK (ULURU)

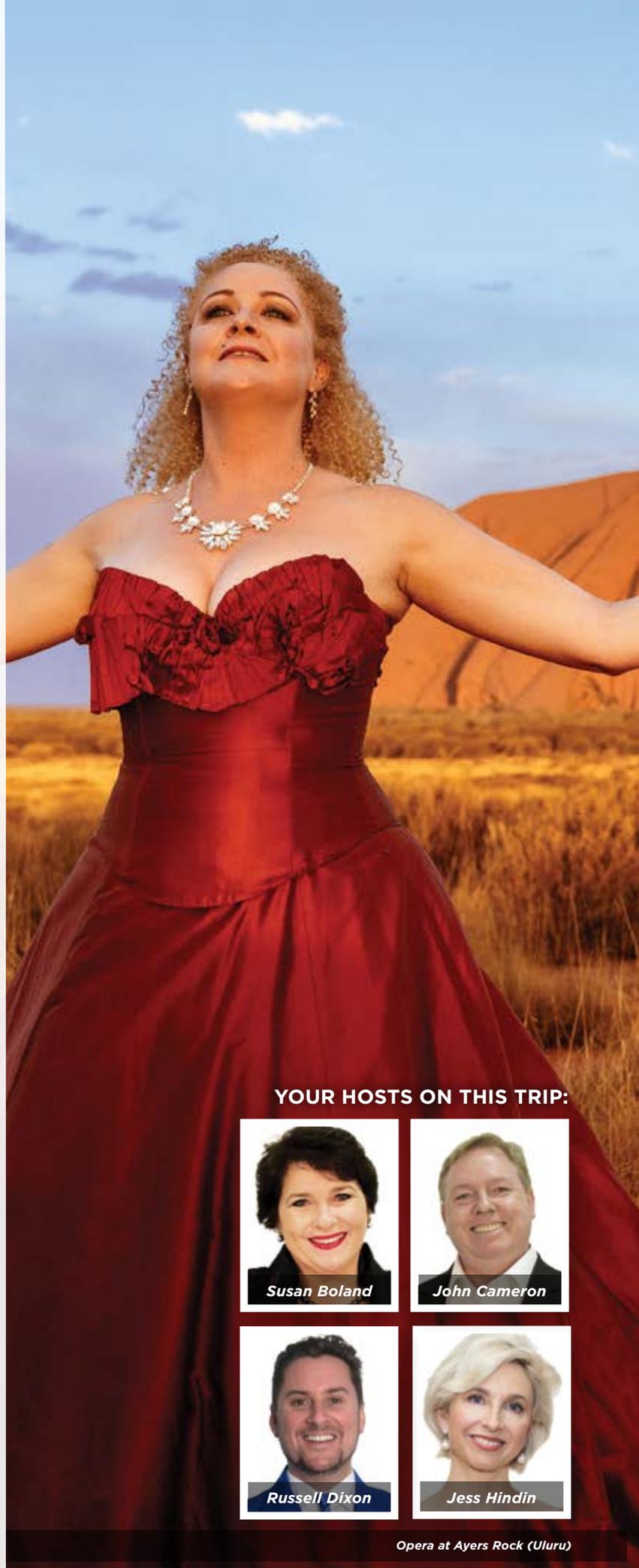
Opera Gala at Ayers Rock, Opera under the Ghost Gums, *The Secret Garden*, *The Happy Prince Ballet*, Christmas in Melbourne

**08 - 17 DECEMBER 2020**

Once in a lifetime experiences: two opera experiences at Ayers Rock, *Field of Light*, Sunset Dinner overlooking Uluru, *The Secret Garden*, *The Happy Prince*, solo violin concert in Dame Nellie Melba's Music Room.

## Experience the Exceptional...

- Set amongst the Field of Light under the stars, overlooking Uluru is an exclusive gala concert featuring opera's most loved hits presented by some of Opera Australia's finest singers.
- Set in the luxurious poolside surrounds of our hotel, Opera Australia presents the joyous final act of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, playfully staged under majestic ghost gums with ornate costuming and a gourmet dinner.
- *Sounds of Silence*, a magical evening with a stunning sunset and star gazing!
- Presented by Australian Ballet at the Sydney Opera House, *The Happy Prince*.
- Starring Anthony Warlow, *The Secret Garden* is a heart-warming magical musical based on the literary classic (tickets to be confirmed).
- Numerous special experiences including Christmas in Melbourne and private concerts from our hosts.



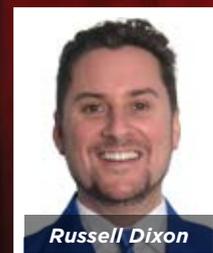
### YOUR HOSTS ON THIS TRIP:



Susan Boland



John Cameron



Russell Dixon



Jess Hindin

Opera at Ayers Rock (Uluru)

## ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCES

### **Opera at Ayers Rock (Uluru)** (Confirmed)

This is an exclusive gala concert featuring opera's most loved hits. Some of Opera Australia's finest singers will perform under the stars, accompanied by a chamber orchestra in this uniquely Australian setting. As the sun sets over the desert backdrop, the performers will be illuminated by the spellbinding colours of 50,000 glass spheres in Uluru's Field of Light.

### **Marriage of Figaro, Uluru (Finale)** (Confirmed)

Set in the luxurious poolside surrounds of Sails in the Desert, Opera Australia presents a performance of the joyous final act of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, playfully staged under majestic ghost gums with ornate costuming and atmospheric lighting and a gourmet dinner.

### **Sounds of Silence, Uluru** (Confirmed)

One of our many premium events we transfer to Uluru for our sunset dinner *Sounds of Silence*. Entered into the Australian Tourism Hall of Fame, Sounds of Silence offers a magical evening of dining amidst a stunning sunset changing into a sparkling outback night sky. It includes dinner and drinks, as well as a star talker who points out stars only seen in this densely blackened region with no city streetlights to detract from the dazzling constellations.

### **Field of Light, Uluru**

As darkness falls and we experience a stunning sunset, Uluru is thrown into silhouette and the *Field of Light* comes alive. Overwhelming in size, the Field of Light is an art installation covering more than seven football fields. This fantasy garden consists of 50,000 spindles of light, the stems swaying in desert colours of ochre, deep violet, blue and gentle white.

### **The Happy Prince, Sydney Opera House** (Confirmed)

Presented by the Australian Ballet at the Sydney Opera House we are privileged to see a new ballet production of Oscar Wilde's lyrical story of a statue who gives up everything to help humanity. It will capture our hearts with its timely message: a kind heart shines brighter than gold.

### **The Secret Garden, Melbourne**

(to be confirmed at time of printing)

Based on the much-loved novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, this heart-warming story comes to life on-stage with the same magical qualities, in this sophisticated take on the literary classic. Australia's leading man Anthony Warlow will once again create theatrical magic in the role of Archibald Craven.



## TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2020 (High Tea) Sir Stamford Hotel (2 nights)

Our fabulous 5-star hotel is centrally located in Sydney only a stone's throw from the Opera House, Circular Quay, Darling Harbour, The Rocks and Royal Botanic Gardens.

### Highlights today include:

- We fly to Sydney today with a city highlights tour included on arrival.
- Then it's off to Boronia House, an amazing historic house for high tea before checking into our beautiful 5-star hotel Sir Stamford, conveniently located close to the Opera House.
- This evening is the first of our many theatrical events: *The Happy Prince*, the ballet presented by the Australian Ballet at the Sydney Opera House.



## WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2020 (B, D)

### Highlights today include:

- Today we enjoy a full day off to visit friends or do some Christmas shopping. You may like to check out the iconic Christmas markets located at the Rocks, within walking distance of the hotel.
- Tonight we meet for a gala dinner and concert from our hosts in the ballroom of our beautiful hotel entitled *Melodies and Memories*, a celebration of beautiful songs from a bygone era and very in keeping with our historic hotel and ballroom.



## THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER 2020 (B, D) Sails in the Desert Resort (3 nights)

Our hotel is a 5-star hotel at Voyages Ayers Rock Resort set amongst ghost gums and flowering native shrubs in the very heart of Australia.

### Highlights today include:

- This morning we head to Uluru (Ayers Rock) on our direct Virgin Airlines flight arriving around lunch time.
- The afternoon is free to settle and enjoy the beautiful hotel in its stunning surroundings.
- This evening is one of our many premium events as we transfer to Uluru for our sunset dinner the *Sounds of Silence*, set against the backdrop of the *Field of Light*. Included in the Australian Tourism Hall of Fame, *Sounds of Silence* offers a magical evening of dining under the sparkling outback sky. It includes dinner and drinks, as well as a star talker who points out stars only seen in this densely blackened region with no city streetlights to detract from the dazzling constellations.



## FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER 2020 (B, D)

### Highlights today include:

- A visit to one of the most famous landmarks in Australia and a guided tour around Uluru to learn more fascinating stories and its significance to the indigenous people.
- Travel to the beautiful Kata Tjuta (The Olgas), aboriginal for “many heads”. It is a group of more than 36 rounded red domes rising from the desert floor. The tallest is said to be around 546 metres high.
- Set in the luxurious poolside surrounds of Sails in the Desert, Opera Australia presents a performance of the joyous final act of Mozart’s *The Marriage of Figaro*, playfully staged under majestic ghost gums with ornate costuming and atmospheric lighting. One of Mozart’s most famous operas, this light-hearted work touches on themes of forgiveness and reconciliation. The performance will take place as we enjoy a sumptuous gala 3-course dinner inspired by the

award-winning Tali Wiru, a signature dining experience.

## SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER 2020 (B)

### Highlights today include:

- The chance to join Uluru Camel Tours on a 45-minute journey through the sand dunes of central Australia with the original “trains of the desert” (Optional, own cost).
- If camel riding is not for you, we can join the indigenous Maraku Arts for a dot painting lesson or simply relax at the hotel.
- **Opera at Ayers Rock (Uluru)**  
This is an exclusive gala concert featuring opera’s most loved hits. Some of Opera Australia’s finest singers will perform under the stars, accompanied by a chamber orchestra in this uniquely Australian setting. As the sun sets over the desert backdrop, the performers will be illuminated by the spellbinding colours of 50,000 glass spheres in the Field of Light.



## SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER 2020 (B)

Today we leave this magical region and travel to our next destination Melbourne to experience the magic of Christmas in the most European of Australian cities. During the Christmas Festival, the city transforms into a wonderland of light, sparkles and decorations.

### Langham Hotel, Melbourne (4 nights)

On the south bank of the Yarra River, this stunning 5-star hotel is within easy access of the city's business district, fashion, shopping, sport, parks and gardens, restaurants, cafés and nightlife! Close by are the Arts Centre, National Art Gallery of Victoria and Federation Square.

- Tonight we rest after a long day of travel.

## MONDAY 14 DECEMBER 2020 (B, Supper)

### Highlights today include:

- This morning we are off for a city tour, which includes seeing the lovely Christmas decorations of Melbourne and enjoying the sights of this pretty city.
- We will stop off at some the most famous Christmas decorated sites and streets along the way to enjoy Melbourne in its best Christmas attire.
- Time to stop off at Queen Victoria Market for a little while for some shopping.
- This evening we meet in the ballroom of our hotel and enjoy a family style soirée: **Soirée Musicale**, complete with mulled wine and Christmas cake as your hosts present to you an informal evening of fun, jokes, lovely music and singalongs.



## TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2020 (B, D)

### Highlights today include:

- Time off today to do your own Christmas shopping or wander enjoying the atmosphere of Christmas in Melbourne.
- Light dinner at the iconic Windsor Hotel before our show.
- This evening is yet another of our amazing shows: ***The Secret Garden*** the musical based on the beloved book by the same name and starring Australia's greatest music theatre singer, Anthony Warlow.
- On the way home from the show tonight we enjoy a drive to see the famous Christmas lights of Melbourne!

## WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2020 (B, L, D)

### Highlights today include:

- Today we are off to Dame Nellie Melba's house in the Yarra Valley to enjoy a house tour, lunch and a special recital from Jessica Hindin on violin in Dame Nellie Melba's own music room; but first, a stop at the chocolate factory for top ups of Christmas chocolate supplies!
- Tonight we enjoy our own Christmas event in the Alto Room overlooking the city of Melbourne, complete with music from our hosts, Christmas dinner, decorations and Christmas carols entitled ***An Olde Fashioned Christmas***.

## THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 2020 (B)

Home today with luggage full of shopping, tummies full of yummy food and hearts full of the most extraordinary melodies presented in the most extraordinary settings!





**\$8,890** *per person  
twin share*

*Single Room supplement add \$2,970*

**Initial Deposit on booking** **\$1,500**

**Second Deposit due 28 May 2020** **\$2,000**

**Final Balance due 26 August 2020**

Deposits refundable (less costs incurred) prior to FINAL BALANCE DUE DATE. Itinerary details are subject to change, however any changes will be replaced with a comparable or better option.

#### THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return economy airfares Auckland-Sydney // Melbourne-Auckland with Air New Zealand (flights from Wellington and Christchurch on request) plus internal airfares Sydney-Uluru // Uluru-Melbourne.
- 9 nights' accommodation all in 5-star hotels: 2 nights at Sir Stamford Hotel, Sydney, 3 nights at Sails in the Desert Resort, Uluru and 4 nights at the luxury Langham Hotel, Melbourne.
- Once in a lifetime experiences in Uluru including an Opera Gala set amongst the Field of Light and Uluru, *The Marriage of Figaro* final act set amongst the ghost gums with gourmet dinner, sunset dinner *Sounds of Silence* with backdrop of Uluru and star gazing, plus guided tour around Uluru to learn more fascinating stories and its significance to the indigenous people.
- Six other incredible musical events *The Happy Prince* presented by Australian Ballet, *The Secret Garden* starring Anthony Warlow, plus four concerts *Melodies and Memories*, *Soirée Musicale*, *An Olde Fashioned Christmas* and *An Afternoon with Jess* presented by our hosts: singers Susan Boland, John Cameron, Russell Dixon with the talent of Jessica Hindin on violin.
- Other exceptional experiences including night city tour of Melbourne's Christmas Lights, Christmas city tour of Melbourne, high tea at Boronia House, Christmas supper with music, time off in Uluru for relaxation or own tours like Sunrise Camel ride (own cost).
- Tour to the Yarra Valley with chocolate tasting and lunch, wine tasting, tour and violin recital in Dame Nellie Melba's house!
- A day off in both Sydney and Melbourne to go Christmas shopping and enjoy the festive decorations in all the shops and iconic malls, meet friends or enjoy your own tours.
- All breakfasts, 1 high tea, 1 lunch, 5 dinners and 1 supper, all taxes, tips and taxes are per our itinerary.
- Hosted by Susan Boland, John Cameron, Russell Dixon and violinist Jessica Hindin.

#### EASY TOUR

This tour will suit people with a stick, but not a walker. You will be required to walk to get from place to place including short walks to get to the concerts, but it is designed to be an easy tour with lots of times to rest, travel on a coach and walk easy leisurely distances.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- Deposits refundable until final payment date minus any costs incurred, or an administration fee of up to \$300.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Travellers are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for all international trips.
- Please refer to terms & conditions on our booking form.



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