

TRAVEL WITH FRIENDS IN 2016

PERFORMANCES  
ANNOUNCED!!

Production shots of Beautiful: The Carole King Musical shot by Joan Marcus

# Another Bite of the Big Apple

THEATRE, ART AND MUSIC IN NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA

with Jonathan Biggins  
15–26 January 2016 (12 days)



# Another Bite of the Big Apple

THEATRE, ART AND MUSIC IN NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA



## TOUR LEADER

**Jonathan Biggins** actor, writer and director, is perhaps best known as one of the creators of *The Wharf Revue*. He has performed for all the state theatre and opera companies, with recent credits including *Travesties* and *Orpheus in the Underworld*. Jonathan won a Helpmann Award for his direction of the musical *Avenue Q*. A regular contributor to the *Good Weekend* magazine and former host of ABC TV's arts program *Critical Mass*, Jonathan's first play, *Australia Day*, debuted for the Melbourne Theatre Company and Sydney Theatre Company in 2012. He recently directed *Noises Off* for the STC.

Jonathan is a regular speaker at Art After Hours and has led successful tours for the Gallery to New York and Chicago.

Following two previous 'sell-out' midwinter tours to New York, Jonathan Biggins returns in January 2016 for another bite of the Big Apple. One of the world's most dynamic and exciting metropolises, New York is bursting with energy and exuberance, and is without doubt one of the world's great art and theatre destinations.

Over ten days, discover the New York art scene, from Brooklyn to the Cloisters, and enjoy four nights of theatre plus a night at the Metropolitan Opera. During a three-day sojourn to Philadelphia, discover that city's wonderful art collections and enjoy a concert by its great orchestra.

## At a glance...

- Enjoy guided visits to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Cloisters, MoMA, the Guggenheim Museum and the Brooklyn Museum in New York
- In Philadelphia discover the new Barnes Foundation, the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Rodin Museum
- In New York see the hit musicals, *Fun Home*, *Something Rotten* and *Beautiful The Carole King Musical*
- On Broadway see theatre performances of Al Pacino in *China Doll* and Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*
- See and hear the Philadelphia Orchestra at home conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin
- Conclude with David McVicar's new production of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* at the Metropolitan Opera



# Itinerary

## Fri 15 January 2016 Depart Australia / New York

Suggested departure from Australia on Qantas flights. Arrive New York late afternoon on the same day. Check in to your hotel located in the Central Park area near the Lincoln Centre, Carnegie Hall, MoMA, Times Square and Fifth Avenue's famous shops.

## Sat 16 Jan New York

Welcome to the Big Apple! After a welcome briefing and breakfast depart the hotel for an orientation tour of Lower Manhattan, south of Central Park. Begin with Times Square, the Rockefeller Centre, St Patrick's Cathedral, the Empire State Building and Madison Square Garden on your way to Ground Zero, the site of the former World Trade Centre.

After lunch explore colourful Chelsea and Soho, the heart of New York's avant-garde art world. During the 1990s Chelsea evolved into one of Manhattan's most trendy neighbourhoods. Former warehouses have been converted into gallery space, and Chelsea has become a thriving quarter for new art. Visit some galleries such as Gagosian, Matthew Marks and Agora Galleries. B L

This evening enjoy your first theatre experience with the most celebrated musical of the year, the Tony Award-winning 'Best Musical' **Fun Home**. Based on Alison Bechdel's best-selling graphic memoir, *Fun Home* features music by Jeanine Tesori, book and lyrics by Lisa Kron and direction by Sam Gold, all of whom won 2015 Tony Awards for their work on this production.

## Sun 17 Jan New York

Start your exploration of the museums of New York with a private tour of the Museum of Modern Art. Enjoy the experience of touring the museum without the crowds, one hour before the doors open to the public.

In 2004 MoMA re-opened to acclaim after a major expansion and refurbishing program at its mid-Manhattan site. The new MoMA was designed by the Japanese architect Yoshio Taniguchi and houses celebrated works of art of the past 150 years. There are outstanding examples by Monet, Van Gogh, Cezanne, Matisse and Pablo Picasso, including his seminal cubist painting *Les Femmes d'Alger* (O.K. B), as well as major photography and film collections. Time at leisure to remain at the museum.

This afternoon enjoy a performance of the Young Vic's acclaimed staging of Arthur Miller's **A View From the Bridge**, starring the Bafta-nominated Mark Strong (Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy, Kingsman: The Secret Service). This production won three Olivier Awards during its West End run earlier this year, including Best Actor for Strong and Best Revival.

Evening at leisure. B

## Mon 18 Jan New York

Enjoy a morning tour of the Upper West side and Harlem. The area has been associated for a long period with the American black community, crime and poverty but Harlem is now experiencing an economic and social gentrification.

Continue to the Cloisters, a branch of the Metropolitan Museum devoted to the art and architecture of medieval Europe, located in northern Manhattan's Fort Tryon Park. This building incorporates elements from five medieval French cloisters. Discover the Cloisters collection, which comprises approximately five thousand works of art from medieval Europe, dating from about the ninth to the fifteenth century.

Afternoon visit to the magnificent Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum located on Fifth Avenue. The Guggenheim is home to one of the world's most integrated collections of modern and contemporary art in one of the greatest modern architectural icons of the 20th century. B



MoMA © NYC & Company / Alex Lopez



Something Rotten – via rottenbroadway.com



**Tue 19 Jan**

**New York**

This morning join Jonathan for an introductory talk followed by a backstage tour of the Metropolitan Opera House and increase your understanding of how the company works. Backstage tours visit production areas not usually seen by the general public. Return to the hotel on your own arrangements. Afternoon at leisure. **B**

This evening join Jonathan for a performance of the Tony-winning smash hit musical **Something Rotten**, a new project from the director-choreographer behind the decade's biggest smash, The Book of Mormon. With a book from John O' Farrell, this is a look back at the ruffs and doublets of Shakespeare's day, and what it's like to live in the shadow of that renaissance prodigy. Brian d'Arcy James and John Ciani shine in their roles of Nick and Nigel Bottom, with 2015 Tony Winner Christian Borle playing the most rock-star version of William Shakespeare you'll find this side of Central Park!

**Wed 20 Jan**

**New York – Philadelphia**

Today depart by coach from Manhattan to Philadelphia (approx. 95 miles, 2 hrs). Renowned for its cultural institutions, Philadelphia is a citywide gallery of public art. More than 1,800 murals adorn city facades and 1,400 sculptures are mounted on buildings and along sidewalks throughout the city, making Philadelphia home to one of the largest inventories of public art in the US.

Visit the Philadelphia Museum of Art, with its collection of more than a half-million paintings, sculptures and artefacts, including its outstanding collection of French art from the modern era.

Mid-afternoon transfer to the hotel, overlooking Independence National Historic Park.

Enjoy dinner in a local restaurant. **B D**

**Thu 21 Jan**

**Philadelphia**

Begin your morning with a guided walking tour of the Independence National Historical Park area by connecting the buildings and places where the events of the American Revolution transpired.

Mid-morning travel to the new home of the Barnes Foundation, established in 1922 by wealthy pharmaceutical mogul Dr Albert C. Barnes to "promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of the fine arts". View the remarkable collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings.

After lunch (own expense) stroll to the Rodin Museum which houses the largest collection of masterpieces, outside of Paris, by French sculptor Auguste Rodin. The Museum was designed by French architect Paul Cret (1876–1945) and French landscape designer Jacques Gréber (1882–1962). Weather permitting stroll through the gardens which recently underwent a three-year rejuvenation effort supported by the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

This evening enjoy a performance at the Kimmel Centre by the **Philadelphia Orchestra** conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin. **B**

**Philadelphia Orchestra, Kimmel Centre**

Haydn – Symphony No.103 "Drum Roll"

Bruckner – Symphony No.4 "Romantic"

**Fri 22 Jan**

**Philadelphia – New York**

This morning enjoy a guided tour of the Fairmount Historic Houses on a journey through Fairmount Park and travel back in time to experience the architectural and decorative styles that exemplified the good life in America's earliest years. After lunch travel back to New York, arriving mid-afternoon. **B**

**Sat 23 Jan**

**New York**

Day at leisure. **B**



Guggenheim Museum © Jules Antonio/Flickr



Yannick Nezet-Seguin, Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra © Chris Lee

This evening enjoy ***China Doll***, a play by David Mamet starring Al Pacino and Christopher Denham, which opens on Broadway in mid-November. Oscar and Tony Award winner Al Pacino returns to Broadway in a new play about big money, fast planes, a beautiful young woman, and other objects of desire.

Sun 24 Jan

New York

This morning continue your exploration of Greater New York City with a tour to Brooklyn, New York City's most populated borough with 2.5 million residents. Brooklyn was an independent city until its consolidation with New York City in 1898, but continues to maintain a distinct culture, independent art scene, and unique architectural heritage. Enjoy Lunch in a local restaurant followed by a visit to the Brooklyn Museum, the second-largest art museum in New York City, and one of the largest in the USA. It is one of the premier art institutions in the world, with its permanent collection including more than one-and-a-half million objects, from ancient Egyptian masterpieces to contemporary art. **B L**

This evening return to the theatre district to see **Beautiful A Carole King Musical**, the multi-award winning smash hit, tracing the career of Carole King, and endorsed by the beloved Grammy winner herself. Beautiful was the feel good hit of 2014 and is shaping up to conquer 2015 with a national tour. Featuring songs from her back catalogue, as a solo artist and co-writer, Beautiful features King's career-defining songs 'Uptown,' 'You Make Me Feel Like A Natural Woman', 'You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling' and 'You've Got a Friend', amongst others, with a respect and poignancy that places it leagues above your run-of-the-mill jukebox musical.

Mon 25 Jan

New York

Day at leisure before celebrating the conclusion of the tour with a pre performance farewell dinner. **B D**

This evening experience a new production by Sir David McVicar of ***Cavalleria Rusticana / Pagliacci*** at the Metropolitan Opera. Conducted by Met Principal Fabio Luisi and features a cast including Marcelo Álvarez dual tenor (Turiddu) in *Cavalleria* and (Canio) in *Pagliacci* and Eva-Maria Westbroek (Santuzza) the unlucky heroine in *Cavalleria*.

Tue 26 Jan

Depart New York

Tour arrangements conclude after breakfast. Suggested departure on Qantas flights in the early evening. **B**

Wed 27 Jan

In-flight

Thu 28 Jan

Arrive Australia

Morning arrival in Australia.



From the Metropolitan Opera's new *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Sir David McVicar. Photo: Cory Weaver/ Metropolitan Opera



Cloisters Collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art – Theodosius Arrives at Ephesus from a Scene from the Legend of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus





Manhattan and Brooklyn brownstones



Al Pacino is starring in China Doll, photo by Thomas Schulz Wikimedia CC



Mexican. Mano Poderosa (The All-Powerful Hand), or Las Cinco Personas (The Five Persons), 19th century © Brooklyn Museum

## Tour prices

Per person, double share	AUD 9,950
Per person, twin share	AUD 10,100
Single supplement*	AUD 1,750
Deposit per person	AUD 500
Final payment due	15 November 2015

\*Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.

**Tour code** AGI602

**Fitness level** Moderate  
Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

**Suggested airline** Qantas/Emirates  
Please contact Renaissance Tours for current airfares and flight reservations.

### Tour price includes

- 11 nights' accommodation in a centrally located four star superior hotels with daily breakfast (**B**)
- Meals as per itinerary (**L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner) including wine with meals.
- A-reserve tickets to 7 performances – opera, musical and theatre.
- Pre-performance talks with Jonathan Biggins
- Transfers and sightseeing, including entrance fees as per itinerary, in comfortable air-conditioned coaches
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (one piece per person)

### Tour price does not include

- International airfares
- Transfer on arrival and departure in New York
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, room service etc.
- Travel insurance
- Airport portorage

### Your hotels★★★★+

New York – Park Central

Philadelphia – Omni Hotel at Independence Park

NB. Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted

# Terms & Conditions

## HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit and page one of your passport.

## DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Your deposit is due at the time of booking and is used to pay hotel, airline, performance tickets and/or other deposits. It is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make the final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit.

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express.

Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

## CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

**a) Cancellation by You** – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to cancellation fees for tours operated by Renaissance Tours as shown below, airlines, hotels and other third parties may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above, cancellation charges may apply for additional arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours, such as air tickets, hotels and travel insurance premium. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

**b) Cancellation by Us** – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for

force majeure, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. No further compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability.

Cancellation and/or amendment fees may apply for additional travel arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours.

## PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

All travellers must be in a possession of a valid passport – most countries require a 6-month validity from your date of entry or exit. For some countries (e.g. China, Vietnam, India, Russia), visas are included in the tour cost and will be arranged by Renaissance Tours prior to travel. For other countries, it is your responsibility to ensure you have the appropriate visa(s).

You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour.

## TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received.

In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid.

Once final payment is received, all prices will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. Your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

## FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

Most of our tours require a MODERATE level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (e.g. remote rail), certain tours will require an ABOVE AVERAGE or CHALLENGING level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

## MODERATE

For the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

## ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

## CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 metres and above).

You can find the full terms & conditions at [www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions](http://www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions) or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.

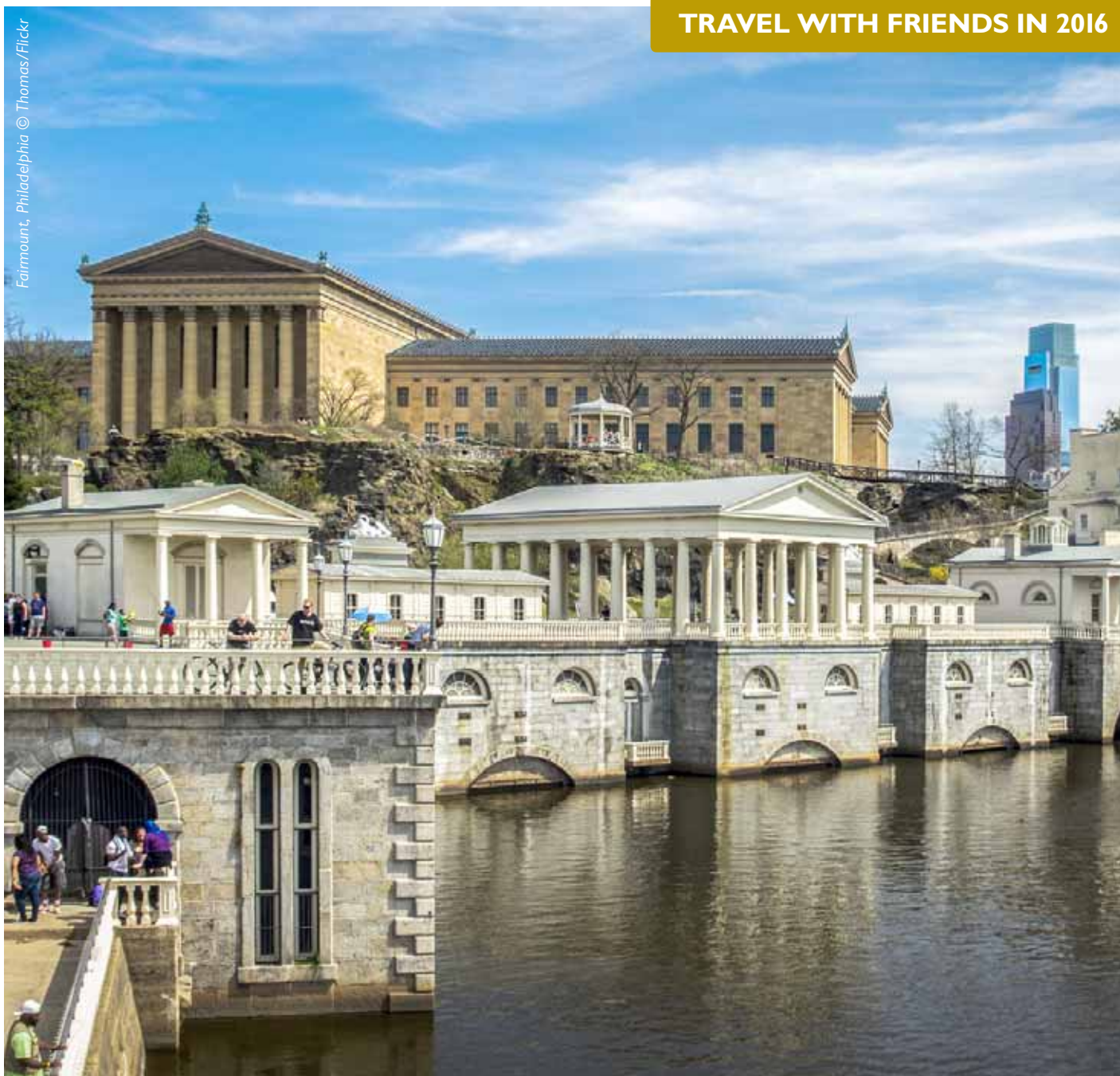


Philadelphia Museum of Art © John Salvino/Flickr



Metropolitan Opera House © Jonathan Tichler





**R**  
**Renaissance**  
Tours

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fax (+61 2) 9299 5805

email [info@renaissancetours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancetours.com.au)

visit [www.renaissancetours.com.au](http://www.renaissancetours.com.au)

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001

ABN 14 069 591 448

Travel agent



# Booking form

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Renaissance  
Tours

www.renaissancetours.com.au

Please return pages 1 and 2 to:

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia or [info@renaissancetours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancetours.com.au)

Toll free AU 1300 727 095 or NZ 0800 403 621 | Tel: +61 2 9299 5801 | Fax: +61 2 9299 5805

- Please complete, sign and return this Booking Form, along with a copy of page one of your passport (international tours only and deposit. NOTE: Flight bookings cannot proceed without passport copy. This is an airline security requirement.
- Complete credit card authority (if paying by credit card) OR forward a (deposit) cheque (made payable to Renaissance Tours).
- Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive confirmation of your place on the tour(s) from Renaissance Tours.

Tour name

Tour code

## Personal details – Passenger 1

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

☐ Yes

☐ No

## MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

☐ MODERATE

☐ ABOVE AVERAGE

☐ CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

## Booking conditions

- ☐ I have read, understood and accept the **Booking Conditions** on page 3. I have enclosed the deposit and understand that the balance of the tour cost must be paid at least 60 days prior to departure (45 days prior for domestic tours) or my reservation may be cancelled.

Sign here

## Personal details – Passenger 2

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

☐ Yes

☐ No

## MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

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Sign here

# Booking form

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## Travel details – Passenger 1

### AIRFARE

☐ Economy ☐ Premium Economy ☐ Business Class ☐ First Class

☐ LAND ONLY

### CITY OF DEPARTURE

☐ Sydney ☐ Melbourne ☐ Brisbane ☐ Perth ☐ Other

### FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

### AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

### ACCOMMODATION

☐ Double ☐ Twin ☐ Single ☐ If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

### TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

### NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ( )

After hours contact

### HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

### DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER?

☐ Yes ☐ No

## Travel details – Passenger 2 (only fill if different from Pax 1)

### AIRFARE

☐ Economy ☐ Premium Economy ☐ Business Class ☐ First Class

☐ LAND ONLY

### CITY OF DEPARTURE

☐ Sydney ☐ Melbourne ☐ Brisbane ☐ Perth ☐ Other

### FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

### AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

### ACCOMMODATION

☐ Double ☐ Twin ☐ Single ☐ If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

### TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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Relationship

Daytime contact ( )

After hours contact

### HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

### DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER?

☐ Yes ☐ No

## Payment

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express. Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

AMOUNT  ☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ CHEQUE ☐ CASH ☐ EFT

### CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY

Cardholder's name

☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Cardholder's number

### SIGN

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Account name: Renaissance Tours

BSB: 062-032 / Account: 2800 4163

Swift code: CTBAAU2S (use for transfers from overseas)

Expiry (month/year)

### DATE

Travel agent

# Booking form

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## FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

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If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

### MODERATE

for the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

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- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

### ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

### CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 m and above).

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is highly recommended that you are covered by travel insurance for domestic tours.

However, it is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. You can make your own arrangements or your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours. In either case all participants must provide the following information no later than 60 days prior to commencement of travel:

- a copy of your travel insurance policy (or details of master policy)
- the emergency telephone number of your insurance company
- next of kin emergency contact.



**Renaissance**  
Tours

toll free 1300 727 095 (AU)  
toll free 0800 403 621 (NZ)  
call (02) 9299 5801  
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visit [www.renaissancetours.com.au](http://www.renaissancetours.com.au)

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001  
ABN 14 069 591 448

## 1. TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received. In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid. Once final payment is received, all prices (excluding air taxes) will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

## 2. PAYMENT

Your final payment is due 60 days before departure (45 days prior for domestic tours). Failure to make your final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit. We reserve the right to charge a late payment fee in the event of late booking and/or payment to cover additional communication and other expenses.

## 3. FLIGHT BOOKINGS AND FARES

Renaissance Tours will use its best endeavours to ensure that all flight prices are correct at the time that they are quoted. However, once a deposit is paid on an air fare, it guarantees that a booking is being held for you, it does not guarantee the fare and applicable taxes.

The fare and taxes can only be guaranteed when the flight booking has been paid in full and a ticket has been issued. Flight bookings cannot be transferred.

## 4. CHANGES

a) Changes by You – Because of additional communication and other expenses, we reserve the right to charge an appropriate administration fee per amendment to your original booking. While every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate changes and additional requests their availability cannot be guaranteed.

b) Changes by Us – While we will use our best endeavours to operate all tours as advertised, by entering into this contract the Client accepts that it may prove necessary or advisable to vary or modify a tour or its contents due to prevailing local conditions. We reserve the right at any time to cancel or change any of the facilities, services or prices described in the brochure (including flights, transport, accommodation or other arrangements) and to substitute alternative arrangements of comparable monetary value without compensation.

If a service or facility becomes unavailable due to circumstances beyond our control ('force majeure') and no alternative arrangement of comparable monetary value is available, we will substitute the best alternative available and will refund the Client for any cost saving or charge the Client for any additional costs incurred. 'Force majeure' includes any event which Renaissance Tours or its suppliers could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid (e.g. advice against travel from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), war, threat of war, riot, civil strife, industrial dispute, epidemics, health risks, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire or adverse weather conditions, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes imposed by cancellation or rescheduling of flights by an airline or main charterer, the alteration of airline or aircraft type). Renaissance Tours is not liable for any penalty charges associated with 'supersaver' type connecting rail or air fares, in the event of a change to a holiday departure time, date or airport.

## 5. SUBSTITUTION OF CLIENT

If any member of the party is prevented from travelling because of the death, injury or serious illness of the passenger, close relative or friend, redundancy or jury service, it may be possible to transfer the booking to another suitable person (acceptable to Renaissance Tours) provided that written notice is given at least one calendar month prior to departure. An administration fee of \$100 + GST per person will be levied plus any costs imposed by our suppliers. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

## 6. CANCELLATION

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to the charges shown below airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

### International Tours

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

### Domestic Tours

45 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

\* Includes any flight deposit paid.

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above cancellation charges, the full insurance premium together with any existing administration fees is also payable in the event of a cancellation by the Client. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for *force majeure* (as outlined in clause 4b) or the Client's failure to pay the final balance, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure for international tours and 45 days before departure for domestic tours. Unless the Client fails to pay the final balance, we will return all monies paid, excluding payment for travel insurance and administration fees. No compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

## 7. PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

It is your responsibility to be in possession of a passport valid for 6 months after the date of your return to Australia. You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary visas, inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour. Information about these matters or related items is given in good faith but without responsibility on the part of Renaissance Tours.

## 8. ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Anyone suffering from illness or disability or undergoing treatment for any physical or medical condition must declare the true nature of such condition at the time of booking and make arrangements for the provision of any medication or other treatment which may be required during the tour. Failure to make such disclosure will constitute a breach of these booking conditions and result in such persons being excluded from the tour in which case all monies paid will be forfeit.

## 9. LOCAL LAWS

All participants of the tours we operate are expected to obey the laws and regulations of the countries visited and any failure to do so will relieve Renaissance Tours of all obligations that they may otherwise have under these booking conditions.

## 10. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT

If you have a complaint about any of the tour arrangements, you must bring it to the attention of the tour leader or other representative of Renaissance Tours at the time so that they may use their best endeavours to rectify the situation. It is only if we are made aware of any problems that there will be the opportunity to put things right. Any complaints must be made in writing to Renaissance Tours within 28 days of the completion of the tour.

## 11. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

All bookings are accepted on the understanding that the Client appreciates that travel does involve some risk and that they undertake all tours of their own volition.

i) Renaissance Tours accepts liability should any part of the tour arrangements booked with us not be supplied as described in the brochure(s) and not be of reasonable standard. In such a case, we will pay reasonable compensation if the Client's enjoyment of the tour has been adversely affected but will pay no compensation if there has been no fault on the part of Renaissance Tours or our suppliers and the reason for the failure in the tour arrangements was the Client's fault, the actions of someone unconnected with the tour arrangements or could not have been foreseen or avoided by Renaissance Tours or its suppliers even if all due care had been exercised.

ii) Our acceptance of liability to pay compensation pursuant to clause 11(i) is limited, in the case of air travel, rail travel, sea travel or hotel accommodation, to the amount set out in the provisions of, respectively, the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955, the 1961 Berne Convention, the 1974 Athens Convention and the 1962 Paris Convention.

iii) Our acceptance of liability in clauses 11(i) and 11(ii) above is subject to assignment by the Client to Renaissance Tours of the Client's rights against any agent, supplier or sub-contractor of Renaissance Tours which is in any way responsible for the unsatisfactory tour arrangements.