

# Our Sydney-Darwin-Adelaide Cruise/Ghan Escapade

16 April to 2 May 2025

A Poem and Photographic Overview by  
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We gather in Auckland, to Sydney we're bound  
We fly through the sky and are soon on the ground  
  
To the port we go, where the Crown Princess is moored  
After check-in and security, it's now time to board  
  
We explore the ship and then sail away  
Sydney's a stunner with the lights in the bay  
  
Easter Friday in Brisbane, ashore some do go  
Others stay on board and just take things slow  
  
There's quizzing and swimming and lots of relaxing  
Choosing what to eat is the task most taxing  
  
There are shows and presentations and late-night chat  
Cocktails and wines and the odd nightcap  
  
We see the engine control room and go up on the bridge  
And gather on Deck 16 for something cold from the fridge  
  
The hues of blue in the sea and sky are so bright  
Willis Island a blend of white-turquoise delight

Cairns is hot as we go out and explore  
Then it's time for food, can we eat any more?  
Three days cruising at sea gives us time to relax  
Enjoying all the offerings on board to the max  
In Darwin we alight on ANZAC Day  
It's just a brief but lovely one-night stay  
Then we board the Ghan train and settle in  
There's lunch and then outings in the town of Katherine  
Life on board the train is wobbly and fun  
But alas its rocking isn't fun for some  
The food is fabulous and the drinks do flow  
Camaraderie ramps up as down the line we go  
Jessie and the crew look after us so well  
Views of red, green and blue out the window are swell  
We trundle on south, next stop Alice Springs  
Some learn about reptiles, others of birds on the wing  
The flies are atrocious and we bat them away  
But despite all that, it's a wonderful day  
When night comes calling, we dine under the stars  
The planets shine bright ... Venus, Jupiter and Mars  
We camel ride, eat, drink and dance and have fun  
Back on board we sleep until up comes the sun  
In Coober Pedy we see mines and opals galore  
Some make a purchase, some just look in awe  
Lunch underground is delicious and unique  
Then we're off to the orthodox church for a peek  
The Breakaways are majestic, a sight to behold  
When we get back to Manguri it's got jolly cold  
A blanket of fog greets us as our journey comes to an end  
We pack up and in Adelaide from the train we descend

On the city tour with Chris we see all sorts of sights  
Then we head to the Stamford Grand in Glenelg for 3 nights

Views of the sea and a superb sunset  
Drinks in the bar, how good can life get!?

Hahndorf is lovely with subtle autumn hues  
Then we head up Mt Lofty for fab city views

In the bar we gather for a wine or a beer  
Our hearty dinner is full of good cheer

A day out in Barossa is packed to the brim  
More food, wine and chocolate, now it's time for the gym!

Oh, what a trip ...

There was laughing and yakking and plenty of glee  
As we discovered Australia by land and by sea

Connections were made, and friendships commenced  
And more than a few medications dispensed!

We had incidents, illness and a few injuries to bear  
Thank goodness for nurse Robyn's exceptional care

A few "lost and founds" and the odd "you did what!?" exclamation  
It was plenty of fun galavanting across this vast nation!

A great group of people and 17 days away  
What a truly awesome Australian holiday

*Best wishes to all, it was wonderful to travel with you and I hope to do so again one day!!*



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## A PHOTO OVERVIEW



































































































