AUSTRALIA
BY PRIVATE AIR

ABOVE AND BEYOND
IN THE LAND DOWN UNDER

April 30 to May 13, 2016

a program of the stanford alumni association
Enjoy unparalleled views from on high during our seven charter flights between Sydney and Darwin aboard our private Fokker 50. Stop at Kangaroo Island in search of wallabies and kangaroos in the wild. Travel to the sand dunes of Uluru (Ayers Rock) and toast with a glass of sparkling wine at a barbecue while watching the sun set over the world’s biggest monolith. From Arnhemland at the top of Australia, search for crocodiles and wetland birds on a billabong cruise. For a unique experience down under, visit Coober Pedy, known as “the opal capital of the world” and “the underground city” because of all the churches, shops and museums built underground to avoid the daytime heat. Join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

FLY from the bottom to the top of Australia aboard our privately chartered Fokker 50, watching the country’s diverse landscapes unfold dramatically below us.

MARVEL at Uluru, the world’s biggest monolith, a World Heritage site and Australia’s most famous natural landmark.

EXPERIENCE the Far North, staying on a registered aboriginal sacred site at Davidson’s Arnhemland Safaris.

DISCOVER off-the-beaten-path Kangaroo Island where we view sea lions basking on unspoiled white beaches and koalas dozing in lofty eucalyptus trees.
SIMON JACKMAN, professor of political science and the statistics of politics, grew up in Brisbane, Australia, and came to the United States for his PhD studies. He stayed on to become a professor and researcher of American politics. He holds dual citizenship and has kept deep personal and family ties to Australia. He enjoys helping Americans to better understand Australia and vice-versa. Over the years, Dr. Jackman has built up a strong network of politicians and journalists in his home country. On this program, he will discuss European immigration to and settlement of Australia, politics and sports in Australia, Uluru (aka Ayers Rock) and the tragic plight of the Australian aborigines. As he says, “Australia has many parallels with the United States, but also many differences—in population, natural resources and choices. There is a strong sense in Australia of the importance of finding a sustainable, prosperous trajectory for the country.”

— Professor, political science and statistics at Stanford, since 1997
— Previously taught at the University of Chicago, Australian National University and University of Sydney
— Co-director, Stanford Center for American Democracy
— Principal investigator, American National Election Studies, 2009–13
— BA, 1988, University of Queensland
— PhD, 1995, University of Rochester, New York

"The educational component is what sets Stanford apart. It always adds tremendously to the trip."

CAROLYN DAVIDSON, ’70, STANFORD TRAVELER

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
SATURDAY TO MONDAY, APRIL 30 TO MAY 2
U.S. / SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
Depart the U.S. for Sydney on Saturday and fly across the international date line losing a day en route. Arrive in Sydney on Monday and transfer to our hotel. After lunch, take a private walking tour of The Rocks, a 19th-century village that today sits in the shadow of The Harbour Bridge. Enjoy a stroll around its cottages, pubs and churches. Tonight enjoy a welcome reception and dinner at our hotel. SHANGRI-LA HOTEL SYDNEY (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MAY 3
SYDNEY
This morning enjoy a unique “behind closed doors” visit to the Art Gallery of New South Wales. We join our private guide prior to the gallery opening to tour the Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander collections followed by a tour of the iconic Sydney Opera House. Following lunch visit the Taronga Zoo where our experienced guide steers us to the best displays and the most exciting animals. Dinner is at leisure this evening. SHANGRI-LA HOTEL SYDNEY (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
SYDNEY / HOBART
This morning we take our first flight aboard our private aircraft to Hobart, Tasmania transferring to Hobart’s new, already world-renowned museum, the privately owned Museum of Old and New Art, for a self-guided tour. MONA sits on a headland of the Derwent River outside Hobart and is owned by eccentric philanthropist, David Walsh. Never short of shock value, the museum has controversial modern art pieces mixed with antiquities and rare coins. This evening meet the director of Art Mob Aboriginal Fine Art Gallery during a private opening followed by dinner at leisure. GRAND CHANCELLOR HOBART (B,L)

THURSDAY, MAY 5
HOBART / PORT ARTHUR
Today’s adventure begins with a beautiful sandy beach. From 1833 until 1853, it was the destination for the hardest of convicted British criminals, those who were secondary offenders having re-offended after their arrival in Australia. Port Arthur was known as an inescapable prison similar to San Francisco Bay’s Alcatraz and where psychological punishment was used. Experience an in-depth tour of the site that includes visits to the Separate Prison, Commandants House and Penitentiary and an exclusive visit to the Archaeological Store, which contains relics discovered on the site that give us a deeper understanding of the lives of the prisoners and staff. GRAND CHANCELLOR HOBART (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, MAY 6
HOBART / ADELAIDE
Board our private aircraft and fly to Adelaide, the cultural hub of South Australia. Upon arrival transfer to the South Australia Museum for a privately guided tour of the Aboriginal Cultures Gallery, which showcases the largest collection of Australian aboriginal artifacts and archival material in the world. Experience the history of one of the world’s oldest and most continuous living cultures. Next head into the Adelaide Hills to Cleland Wildlife Park, famous for its friendly koalas and home to over 130 species of native South Australian animals, many of which are endangered. Cleland offers a rare opportunity to get close to animals seldom seen in the wild, such as the yellow-footed wallaby, the bush stone curlew and the brush-tailed bettong. Enjoy the opportunity to hold a koala—subject to animal welfare. HILTON ADELAIDE (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MAY 7
ADELAIDE / KANGAROO ISLAND / ADELAIDE
Today’s adventure begins with a short flight to Kangaroo Island, one of Australia’s rustic wonders, a treasure chest brimming with wildlife. Due to its isolation, Kangaroo Island possesses rich and diverse flora and fauna seldom found elsewhere in Australia. Walk quietly through the bush with our guide looking for wallabies and a species of kangaroo found only on the island. At a secluded bush location, enjoy a delicious lunch featuring local seafood, fresh salads and fine South Australian wines. Continue to Seal Bay Conservation Park and walk among Australian sea lions on a beautiful sandy beach. HILTON HOTEL (B,L)

SUNDAY, MAY 8
ADELAIDE / COOBER PEDY / ULURU
Board our private plane and fly to Coober Pedy, the largest opal supplier in the world. Discover this mining community’s unique living environment with a visit to an underground home and the only underground Orthodox Church in the world. Also learn about the opal-cutting process. Continue this afternoon to the world’s biggest monolith, Uluru—formerly known as Ayers Rock.
Rock. Archaeological evidence suggests that aboriginal people have lived around Uluru for at least 22,000 years. SAILS IN THE DESERT (B,L)

MONDAY, MAY 9
ULURU
This morning before sunrise depart for the base of Uluru. Watch the hues of the desert landscape change as the sun slowly rises and the sky lightens. As the day breaks over Australia’s heartland, hear about the history of this unique area, including the plights of early explorers and their dealings with the Anangu, the traditional inhabitants of this spectacular wilderness. Return to our hotel for an afternoon at leisure. This evening take in the magical sunset at Uluru and a 360° view before partaking in a traditional Australian barbecue in the shadow of the monolith. SAILS IN THE DESERT (B,D)

TUESDAY, MAY 10
ULURU / DARWIN / ARNHEMLAND
Depart Uluru on our private plane bound for Darwin, capital of Australia’s Northern Territory. Upon arrival, transfer by light aircraft to Davidson’s Arnhemland Safaris, our home for the next three nights. Amid the lush wilderness of Australia’s breathtaking Top End, Davidson’s Arnhemland Safaris is a 435-square-mile area tucked up against the Arnhemland escarpment, its rugged ranges fringed by idyllic billabongs, flood plains, paper bark swamps and monsoonal rainforests—an amazingly beautiful wilderness. During our three-night stay at Davidson’s we’ll divide into groups of 8 to 10 for morning and afternoon touring. DAVIDSON’S ARNHEMLAND SAFARIS (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, MAY 11 & 12
ARNHEMLAND
During our time at this wonderful locale, we’ll rotate activities so as not to miss anything. Experience a billabong cruise observing wildlife, including the many crocodiles that inhabit the watercourses and wetland birds of varying species; journey into Mt. Borradaile’s sandstone escarpments formed millions of years ago; explore the rainforest areas and discover a completely different ecosystem with a distinct array of plants and animals; view galleries of aboriginal rock art and walk through the incredible catacombs that display signs of both recent occupation and ancient mortuary rites. Cruise along the billabong to watch the sun set over the floodplain and Mt. Borradaile light up with magnificent colors as we enjoy a glass of wine and some appetizers. DAVIDSON’S ARNHEMLAND SAFARIS (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

FRIDAY, MAY 13
ARNHEMLAND / DARWIN / U.S.
Depart our lodge mid-morning, returning by light aircraft to the Darwin airport for our flights back home, arriving back in the U.S. the same day. (B)

Fokker 50
Explore Australia from the comfort and convenience of a Fokker 50 private aircraft. This compact aircraft allows us to land at remote destinations. Because of the Fokker 50’s over-wing configuration, the plane is able to provide us with large windows that give us unobstructed views for spectacular flight-seeing along our route. The plane also features two-by-two seats with a comfortable 30-inch seat pitch, is fully air-conditioned and offers complete onboard service.
Melbourne Pre-trip Extension

WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY, APRIL 27 TO 29
U.S. / MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Arrive in Melbourne on Friday and transfer to the Park Hyatt, conveniently situated in one of Melbourne’s most historic areas and bordered by the delightful Fitzroy Gardens. Take a small group walking tour through Melbourne's beautiful lanes and arcades. Though well-known, not all these wonders are easy to find. Enjoy dinner with fellow travelers this evening at our hotel. PARK HYATT (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, APRIL 30
MELBOURNE
This morning tour the “Queen Victoria Market” also known affectionately known as ‘Vic Market’ or ‘Queen Vic’, the Market has been the heart and soul of Melbourne for more than a century. A historic landmark spread over two city blocks, the inner-city Market includes everything from Australian fruits and vegetables and local and imported gourmet foods, to cosmetics, clothing and souvenirs. Continue this afternoon on a guided tour of the Ian Potter Centre, which houses the Australian part of the art collection of the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV). This evening join an optional excursion to the Melbourne Theatre or enjoy a dinner at leisure. PARK HYATT (B,L)

SUNDAY, MAY 1
MELBOURNE
This morning head out into the beautiful central business district for a half-day cycle tour. See more in a few hours than most see in days, peddling through the bohemian backstreets, bluestone paths, lively markets and hidden arcades. Stop along the way at a café for a gourmet lunch before enjoying the rest of the afternoon and evening at leisure. PARK HYATT (B,L)

MONDAY, MAY 2
MELBOURNE / SYDNEY
Transfer to the Melbourne airport for a commercial flight to Sydney to join fellow Stanford travelers for the main program. (B)

Pricing will be sent to confirmed travelers.

Daintree National Park Post-trip Extension

FRIDAY, MAY 13
DARWIN / CAIRNS / DAINTREE
On arrival in Darwin board a domestic flight to Cairns. After arriving in Cairns, drive north and journey deep into the Daintree rain forest. SILKY OAKS LODGE (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MAY 14
GREAT BARRIER REEF EXCURSION
Board a cruise to the Agincourt Ribbon Reefs, located on the very outer edge of the reefs, which are renowned as the place to go for crystal-clear water, spectacular coral gardens and a huge variety of marine life. Enjoy the colors and variety of fragile corals and fish life found in the shallow lagoons with our snorkeling guides and marine biologists. Scuba diving is available for those with medical clearance and at an additional cost. SILKY OAKS LODGE (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, MAY 15
DAINTREE
Today explore Copper Creek Wilderness, the last remnant of the oldest-surviving rain forest in the world—a Gondwanan relic that has survived more than 135 million years. Take a guided walk and learn about the evolutionary history of the Daintree rain forest and history of the early European settlements in the wake of Captain Cook’s arrival at Cape Tribulation. Enjoy lunch prior to an afternoon at leisure at the lodge. SILKY OAKS LODGE (B,L,D)

MONDAY, MAY 16
DAINTREE / CAIRNS / U.S.
Following breakfast, transfer to the Cairns airport to board flights home. (B)

Pricing will be sent to confirmed travelers.
DATES
April 30 to May 13, 2016 (14 days)

SIZE
This program can accommodate 38 participants. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

COST*
$15,995 per person, double occupancy
$18,395 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

INCLUDED
11 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations with early check-in on May 2 • 12 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 7 dinners • Welcome and farewell receptions • 7 privately chartered flights on Fokker 50 aircraft or similar • Round-trip flight by light aircraft between Darwin and Davidson’s Arnhemland Safaris • Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and plane crew for all group activities • All tours as described in the itinerary • Group transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days • Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance • Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information • Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and domestic airfare • Passport and visa fees • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Independent and private transfers • Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Excess-baggage charges • Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on Air New Zealand from San Francisco to Sydney, Australia, and return from Darwin, Australia, is approximately $1,900 as of July 2015 and is subject to change without notice.

WHAT TO EXPECT
All participants must be physically fit and in active good health. While our private aircraft allows us to travel easily to each destination, we consider this expedition to be a moderately active program. Daily programs involve one mile of walking on average, often on uneven terrain. Some days require early-morning starts and have a full schedule of excursions, lectures and special events. Flight times range from 30 minutes to three hours and 45 minutes, and participants must be able to board and exit our aircraft by stairs, where staff will be on hand to assist. Autumn is an ideal time of year to visit Australia, the weather being mild with low humidity. Temperatures in May range from the mid-50s (°F) in the east and south to the mid-80s in the north. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. A $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for the optional pre-trip and post-trip extensions. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?australia2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be provided to U.S. residents with their welcome materials. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within a specified window: 14 to 21 days of your written confirmation of participation on the trip, depending on your destination and state of residence.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and travel companions may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in July 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

terms & Conditions

Telephone (650) 725-1093
Email travelstudy@alumni.stanford.edu

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50

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"This trip gave us a comprehensive picture of Australia—past, present and future—with an efficiency only the charter plane could deliver!"

TIMOTHY, MBA ’72, AM ’73, AND MARY ORD, AUSTRALIA BY PRIVATE AIR, 2015