

Baptist World Congress Tour
featuring Brisbane, Sydney, and New Zealand
July 4 - 23, 2025
with Baptist Women of North America



Day 1, Fri, July 4

Today we depart on our journey to Brisbane. Dinner and breakfast will be served aloft.

Depart USA

(meals aloft)

Day 2, Sat, July 5

Our journey continues as we fly over the Pacific Ocean and cross the International Date Line.

International Date Line

(meals aloft)

Day 3, Sun, July 6

Upon arrival in Brisbane, make your own way to the **Novotel Brisbane South Bank Hotel** with the remainder of the day to relax and recuperate from your travel.

Arrive Brisbane

(meals aloft)

Day 4, Mon, July 7

Today we will kick off the Congress with the 2-day Baptist Women's Summit that will feature powerful teaching and one-of-a-kind opportunities to network with Baptist women from around the world.

Brisbane

(B)

Day 5, Tue, July 8

The BWA Women's summit continues, laying the foundation for a week of spiritual renewal and a lifetime of memories and ministry impact.

Brisbane

(B)

Day 6, Wed, July 9

Today we participate in the Opening Celebration of the 23rd Baptist World Congress.

Brisbane

(B)

Day 7, Thu, July 10

BWA activities will be scheduled throughout the day and evening. Experience this one-of-a-kind opportunity to gather with Baptist sisters and brothers from around the world and learn how God is at work in and through our global family.

Brisbane

(B)

Day 8, Fri, July 11

BWA activities continue throughout the day and evening.

Brisbane

(B)

Day 9, Sat, July 12

BWA activities will be available throughout the day. This evening we gather one more time with our global Baptist family and participate in the Closing Celebration.

Brisbane

(B)

Day 10, Sun, July 13

After breakfast we transfer to the Brisbane airport for our flight to Sydney - the capital city of the state of New South Wales and the most populous city in Australia. Upon arrival we are met by our local guide and transfer to the **Parkroyal Darling Harbour Sydney Hotel** with the remainder of the day at leisure in this stunning harbourside city.

Brisbane/Sydney

(B)

Day 11, Mon, July 14

The magnificent Blue Mountains are named for the evaporating Eucalyptus oil that bathes the mountains in a blue haze, and today we'll get a closer look at them. On the way, we'll visit the Featherdale Wildlife Park which contains various species native to Australia and is known to be one of the world's largest collections of Australian fauna. We then drive to Echo Point to view the Three Sisters - a sacred spot for the local aboriginal community, with a tragic legend describing how these rock sisters formed. Here we take in the views of the incredible Jamison Valley and the unique rock formations. We walk one of the many trails that allows us to weave around a number of enchanting spots. Next we have a relaxing lunch at the *Echo Point Lookout Restaurant* while we take in sweeping mountain and valley views. From there we return to our hotel with the remainder of the evening at leisure and dinner on your own.

Sydney

(B,L)

Day 12, Tue, July 15

Today we have a panoramic city tour of Sydney. Set on the beautiful blue Sydney Harbour, this fast-paced city of cosmopolitan character features colonial history, stunning architecture, and superb waterways. We begin at the eastern beaches of Sydney, including Watsons Bay and Bondi Beach, and take a beautiful coastal walk along the bays. Then we

Sydney

make our way back towards the city center with interesting viewpoints along the way and a drive through the historic district of Paddington and The Rocks, where we enjoy the magnificent views of this harbourside city. We continue to Circular Quay with time at leisure before walking to the Sydney Opera House for a tour of one of the world's most iconic buildings. This remarkable architectural achievement is UNESCO World Heritage listed and hosts over 1800 performances each year. Following our time here, we return to our hotel with some time to rest and freshen up. This evening, we have a memorable two-hour Sydney Harbour Dinner Cruise before returning to our hotel for overnight. (B,D)

Note that if you choose to fly back to the US from Sydney rather than continuing on to New Zealand, your tour price will be reduced by \$2,695.

Day 13, Wed, July 16

Following breakfast this morning, we transfer to the Sydney airport for our flight to the lovely "alpine resort" of Queenstown, nestled among glacier-rounded hills and dramatic mountain peaks. Upon arrival enjoy a panoramic tour to view sites such as Kawarau bungy bridge and drive up the Queenstown Hill to take in the bird's-eye views of Queenstown, Lake Wakatipu, and the Remarkables. We check into our hotel with some time to freshen up, and then we transfer to the Skyline Complex where we ride a gondola to the summit of Bob's Peak. The best views in the region are found here spread out in a spectacular 220-degree panorama, with breathtaking views of Coronet Peak, The Remarkables mountain range and across Lake Wakatipu to Cecil and Walter Peaks. It is truly magnificent and awe-inspiring! Dinner is included at *Stratosfare Restaurant*, and then we ride the gondola down to the base and transfer back to our hotel. (B,D)

Sydney/Queenstown**Day 14, Thu, July 17**

This morning we board our motorcoach and follow the southern arm of Lake Wakatipu. We pass the Remarkables Ski field and Kingston at the southern end of the lake and turn towards Lake Te Anau, the largest of the South Island lakes. Te Anau is also the natural gateway to the World Heritage-listed Fiordland Park, one of the world's last great wildernesses. The scenery changes dramatically from tussock covered grasslands to glacier hewn valleys. The Mirror Lakes, Cascade Creek, and other many vantage points enroute provide a photographer's paradise. Travel through the man-made Homer Tunnel to the breath-taking views of Milford Sound, cutting into the heart of the Southern Alps and lined by cliffs that soar nearly a mile above its surface. Here we enjoy a cruise on Milford Sound, delving into the history, geology, and wildlife of the Fiord. Look out for seals basking on the rocks, bottlenose dolphins, and rare Fiordland crested penguins. There will be an opportunity to drink pure glacial water straight from the waterfalls. A picnic lunch is included on board. After our time here, we return to Queenstown for overnight. (B,L)

Milford Sound**Day 15, Fri, July 18**

Today we go first to Arrowtown, a New Zealand treasure and an absolute 'must do' when visiting Queenstown. This beautiful small town provides a rich and colorful look at gold mining history. Travel back in time to the gold rush era as we meander along Buckingham Street. From there we go to the reconstructed town of Old Cromwell with its recreated buildings from the gold mining era and enjoy a coffee overlooking Kawarau River. Then we continue our scenic drive through Lindis Pass and on to Twizel, the largest town near Mount Cook National Park. Among many other outdoor activities, Twizel is great for fishing enthusiasts, with trout plentiful in the local canals and lakes. And whether interested in stargazing or not, there's no denying that the Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve offers some of the most incredible views of the night sky to be found on Earth. Depending on the time of year, we may be treated to clear views of the planets in the solar system, amazing star constellations, and the Milky Way. Our destination this evening is **Distinction MacKenzie Country** where we check in and spend the night. (B)

Arrowtown/Cromwell/Twizel

Day 16, Sat, July 19 Twizel/Lake Tekapo/Christchurch

We depart Twizel and drive along the shores of Lake Pukaki, enjoying views of Aoraki (Mount Cook), the tallest mountain in New Zealand. This massive mountain rivals the Himalayas in appearance and is where Sir Edmund Hillary developed his climbing skills in preparation for the conquest of Everest. We make a stop in the township of Lake Tekapo, which faces north across the remarkable turquoise coloured lake to the mountainous drama of the Southern Alps. Lake Tekapo gets its intense milky-turquoise color from the fine rock-flour (ground by glaciers) which is suspended in the water. On the shores of the lake we see the beautiful Church of the Good Shepherd, where the altar window frames a perfect view of the Southern Alps beyond the lake. This afternoon we continue to Christchurch, a beautiful city located on the Avon River that is considered "the most English city outside of England." Upon arrival we have a brief sightseeing tour that highlights the city's magnificent gardens and elegant park district, and then we check into our hotel. (B)

Day 17, Sun, July 20 Christchurch/Rotorua

Today we fly from Christchurch to the "thermal city" of Rotorua. Set on its namesake lake on New Zealand's North Island, Rotorua is renowned for its Maori culture as well as its geothermal activity, including the 30-meter tall Pohutu Geyser that erupts multiple times a day. Upon arrival we have an orientation tour of the city and then we go to Wai-o-Tapu Thermal Wonderland, considered to be New Zealand's most colorful and diverse geothermal sightseeing attraction. Unique features include the Champagne Pool's naturally coloured springs, bubbling mud, steaming ground, expansive vistas, and huge volcanic craters. This afternoon we check into our hotel and have some time to freshen up. Then we are treated to an unforgettable evening at Mitai Maori Village. After being greeted by a beautiful Maori maiden in traditional costume, we watch fierce warriors in traditional dress paddle an ancient warrior canoe. We are captivated by songs, dances and games in an entertaining cultural concert, complete with the fiery "Haka" Maori war dance, all while enjoying a traditionally cooked Hangi meal. Then an informative guided walk introduces us to traditional medicinal uses and the way the Maori people lived in the past. Our night concludes with seeing the rare glow-worms lighting up the forest. (B,D)

Day 18, Mon, July 21 Hobbiton/Waitomo/Cambridge

Today we venture into Middle Earth and explore Hobbiton – the only remaining commercial set from the Lord of the Rings trilogy and the setting for 'The Hobbit' movies directed by Peter Jackson. After our time there, we enjoy lunch in nearby Otorohanga at **Crosshills Farm**. This afternoon we go to Waitomo Caves and begin our guided Glowworm Tour. More than 30 million years ago, the legend of Waitomo began with the creation of limestone at the bottom of the ocean. Discover this ancient world with our expert tour guide who brings the Waitomo Glowworm Cave to life through telling the story of its history, features and legends. Walk past stunning, delicate cave formations before taking a boat ride through the glowworm grotto. Glide silently through the starry wonderland of Arachnocampa Luminosa, thousands of magical glowworms, unique to New Zealand. From here we continue to Cambridge where we meet our local farm hosts. After a brief tour of our host's farm, we share a memorable dinner together and spend the night at their farm. (B,L,D)

Day 19, Tue, July 22 Cambridge/Auckland

Today we depart Cambridge and drive across rich, lush countryside on our way to Auckland, the "City of Sails" and New Zealand's largest city. Auckland and its suburbs spread generously over a narrow isthmus between the Pacific Ocean and the Tasman Sea. Extinct volcanic cones characterize the landscape, while an unending procession of sails on the harbor typify the relaxed outdoor lifestyle enjoyed by its largely European and Polynesian population. Upon arrival we have a panoramic tour to see the beautiful beaches of Mission Bay,

Ferry building, and Auckland Harbour Bridge, take in scenic views of Auckland city and the North Shore from Bastion Point, and meander along the charming streets of Parnell Village. After our tour we transfer to our hotel for check-in, with dinner on your own. (B)

Day 20, Wed, July 23 Auckland

Following breakfast this morning, we transfer to the Auckland airport for our return flight, arriving home later this evening. (B, meals aloft)

All sites listed in the itinerary will be covered but the sequence and days may be altered to adjust to religious holidays, special closings of sites, air schedules, etc. Hotels listed subject to re-confirmation.

TOUR CONDITIONS**LAND-ONLY PRICE OF 20-DAY TOUR:**

\$6,039 if paying by credit card

OR

\$5,799 if paying by check or e-check*

(per person, double occupancy)

Space is limited, so enroll soon!

***Travelers can pay deposit by credit card and remaining balance by check or e-check to receive the \$5,799 per person tour cost.**

NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR RATE: Airfare and applicable air taxes/fuel surcharges for your flight to Brisbane and back from Auckland. BWA Congress and Women's Summit registration fees (payable directly to the BWA. Women's Summit fee, \$50. Congress fees vary by age - Individuals over 30: \$379; ages 18-30: \$329; ages 12 - 17: \$249; ages 3 - 11: \$149; family and group options also available. Fees shown are valid until November 30, 2024. Fees will increase starting December 1, 2024. Register at <https://bwabrisbane.com/congress-registration/>). Meals not listed as being included; passport fees; Visa or Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) fees; single room supplement (\$1,939); excess baggage and forwarding of baggage; portorage; personal items such as laundry, tips for personal favors, insurance, any costs resulting from absence or deviation from the itinerary and any items not shown herein as being included.

DEVIATION ITINERARY: Any adjustment in standardized air or land itinerary will carry a \$100 fee (for each change) in addition to any additional expense required. This fee is applicable for research projected and/or accepted. **To ensure efficient handling of these requests, Dehoney Travel, Inc. will require that a tour deposit be received before a deviation request can be processed.** If deviating from the group tour program, there will be no refund for any service not used. **Deviation requests must be submitted in writing to air@dehoneytravel.com.** Deviation requests received within 120 days of departure may incur additional change fees from the airline and/or land provider.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Airfare and applicable air taxes/fuel surcharges for flights to Brisbane and back from Auckland are **NOT** included in the tour price. Dehoney Travel will book flights from your preferred departure city if you wish for us to do so. **Once issued, the ticket is non-refundable and any fees resulting from changes or cancellation are at the traveler's own expense.** Contact Dehoney Travel for further information.

SEAT REQUESTS: Airlines differ in their handling of seat assignments. In some cases, seats are not assigned until about 3 weeks prior to departure, and occasionally seat assignments are not available until airport check-in on the day of departure. Unless otherwise noted, airfare quotes do not include any fees that may

be required by the airline to secure a reserved seat assignment. **Please note that specific air seat requests will be forwarded to the airline on your behalf but are subject to final approval/confirmation by the airline.** Seat requests must be submitted in writing to air@dehoneytravel.com.

TOUR DOCUMENTS: The name on your air ticket **must exactly match** your name as it appears on your passport. **Passports must be valid at least 6 months beyond return date of travel.** Please forward a copy of the photo/informational page of your passport when enrolling on the tour. If applying for a new or renewed passport, send the copy as soon as you receive your new passport. **Visa or Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) is required for anyone who is NOT an Australian citizen visiting Australia; Travelers are responsible for obtaining their visa or ETA and paying any associated fees.** Dehoney Travel will provide information to travelers on the ETA procedures.

HOTELS: Four-star/first-class & five-star/superior-class. Portage is not included. **While Dehoney Travel will try to match roommates, we cannot guarantee that a roommate will be available.** In this case, the payment of a single supplement will be required. When available, single rooms are often smaller than double rooms. **Single supplement, \$1,939.**

MEALS & SIGHTSEEING: Meals as listed in itinerary (B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner). Sightseeing as listed in day-by-day itinerary with English-speaking local guides and transfer assistance where required. **Gratuities to local guides, bus drivers, etc. are included in the tour rate.**

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE: Due to space limitations on buses used, we have included portage for only one checked bag (combination width, length and height not to exceed 62 inches and maximum weight of 50 pounds) in tour cost. You may also take one carry-on that will fit under your airline seat or in the overhead compartment.

PAYMENT: Payment can be made by cash, check or credit card (Discover, MasterCard or Visa). A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required by January 13, 2025 in order to confirm tour membership. After that date, space may be limited and/or a supplement in airfare may apply. Balance of tour price is due no later than April 25, 2025. **Enrollment in and payment of deposit constitutes your acceptance of the Tour Conditions described herein.**

DELAYS, CANCELLATION AND REFUND: Dehoney Travel, Inc. is not responsible for changes and delays in airline schedules and **cannot reimburse** passengers for expenses resulting from delays, re-issuance of air tickets, etc. Should you cancel, there will be a fee of \$250 for Dehoney Travel, Inc. to cover administrative costs. In addition, the following scale of charges will apply (per person) when notice of cancellation is given in writing after the booking is confirmed:

- Prior to March 1, \$250.
- March 1-31, \$500.
- April 1-30, \$1000.
- May 1 and after, 100% cancellation penalty.

On or after the date of departure there can be no refund for any service not used.

All cancellation notifications must be made in writing to Dehoney Travel, Inc. Please allow 4 weeks for cancellation refund processing. After ticketing of international and domestic air, a cancellation penalty of 100% of air fare is in effect. Group tickets are normally issued approximately 45 days prior to departure, but in the event that your ticket is issued earlier, the above schedule of cancellation penalties and refund amounts will be adjusted accordingly.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: As many U.S. health carriers do not provide benefits while outside the country and cancellation penalties can be substantial for many tours, Dehoney Travel, Inc.

offers a Travel Protection Plan, OneTrip Prime, through Allianz Global Assistance. **The Option to Waive Pre-existing Condition Exclusion requires purchase of Travel Protection within 14 days of the date on your tour deposit check or your credit card tour deposit being processed at Dehoney Travel. You may decline the Travel Protection Plan, but a signed disclaimer is required and all charges for cancellation or medical treatment/transport while traveling are your responsibility.**

Subject to Governmental, IATA, ARC and airlines regulation requirements in effect at the date of and during the tour. Tour price based on group minimum of 15 passengers, air fares and cost of land arrangements as of October 31, 2024, and is subject to any increases that may be imposed prior to departure.

RESPONSIBILITY: Dehoney Travel, Inc. (DT), agrees to arrange for the tour described in this brochure, which brochure represents the entire agreement between the passenger and his agent, the Tour Host and DT. Except for the willful negligence of its direct employees, DT assumes no liability or responsibility for any injuries, inconveniences, illness or irregularity or incidental damages occasioned by circumstances beyond the control of DT or any person or reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, events such as strikes, revolts, wars, travel warnings, terrorist activities, natural disasters, closures of airports or hotels, or omission of any common or private carrier or the default, negligence, or omission of and by any third party providing services or facilities related to or included in this tour or any part thereof, or in arranging for the same, or the acts or omissions of the Tour Host. DT has no special knowledge regarding the financial condition of suppliers, unsafe conditions, health hazards, political conditions, weather hazards, or climate extremes at locations to which you may travel. For information concerning possible dangers at destinations, DT recommends contacting the Travel Warnings Section of the U.S. State Department at (202) 647-5225 or www.travel.state.gov. Also see the following US State Department advisory: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings/worldwide-caution.html>. For medical information, DT recommends contacting the Centers for Disease Control at (877) FYI-TRIP or www.cdc.gov/travel. You assume full and complete responsibility for checking and verifying all passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destination(s), and all conditions regarding health, safety, security, political stability, and labor or civil unrest at such destination(s). You hereby release DT from all claims arising out of any problem covered in this paragraph.

No person, other than an authorized representative of Dehoney Travel, Inc. by a document in writing, is authorized to vary, add, or waive any term or condition in this brochure, including any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

For further information contact:

Patty Lane

Email: prlane2020@gmail.com



Arrangements by:

Dehoney Travel

3008 Charlestown Crossing, New Albany, IN 47150

Phone: (812) 206-1080

Email: info@dehoneytravel.com

www.dehoneytravel.com



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