

## Lord Howe Island

**28 November - 6 December 2025 | 8 nights**



### TOUR OVERVIEW

Lord Howe Island is part of New South Wales however this world heritage site is a world apart and is often referred to as 'Australia's last great paradise'. Rising out of the Pacific Ocean with two high peaks, crescents of sandy beach and an idyllic lagoon teeming with life, this is a tropical paradise but with much more going for it than just beautiful beaches.

Although only 11km long and 2km wide, it is laced with dozens of well-marked walking trails with nearly two thirds of the island designated as a Permanent Park Preserve. You will see rainforest, caves, volcanic peaks, rock columns and visit the world's southernmost coral reef. Bird life is spectacular as is the undersea life which you can see from glass bottom boats, snorkeling or by wading into the calm lagoon. Visitor numbers are capped at 400 maximum per night which keeps an air of exclusivity and an unhurried pace of life.

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## TOUR INCLUSIONS

- The services of an experienced New Zealand-based Calder & Lawson Tours tour manager
- Economy flights Auckland/Sydney and Sydney/Lord Howe Island and vice versa
- 8 nights accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- Other meals as specified in the itinerary
- All group transfers as specified in the itinerary
- Admissions as detailed in the itinerary
- Guided walks, island tours and two evening talks on the fascinating history, flora & fauna of the island
- All tips for local guides and other service providers

## TOUR EXCLUSIONS

- Airline taxes
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Beverages during included meals, unless specified
- Hotel or airport portorage
- Optional activity on your day of leisure

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk a selection of the many trails on the island.
- Learn about the island's history, geology and endemic plants from a local expert.
- Enjoy spotting prolific birdlife. The island is home to more than 130 permanent and migratory species.
- View the unique marine life of the lagoon from a glass bottom boat (weather permitting) with optional snorkelling available.
- Enjoy a full day for optional activities such as fishing, biking, day cruising or golf (own expense).

## TOUR MANAGER: PETER GIBBS

Peter describes himself as a 'restless' soul and this probably explains his life in travel, having visited over 60 countries. He eventually settled down when he met his wife Liz on his last overland trip, had three children and embarked on a career in the travel industry. He was originally an owner of the company Venturetreks and then eventually an owner of The AdventureTravel Company in Auckland. He sold his travel company some years ago and is now semiretired. Peter has led many successful tours for Calder & Lawson Tours all over the world.



# TOUR PRICE

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

**Single supplement \$1,890**

The above prices are in NZ dollars and include international airfares from Auckland to Sydney and Lord Howe Island.

Please contact Calder & Lawson Tours if you are interested in a single occupancy place.

if you are a single traveller looking to share a room, please let us know and we may be able to find a suitable person willing to share.

**GROUP SIZE** Minimum 10, maximum 18

**VARIATIONS IN TRAVEL** We can make arrangements for any travel you would like to do before or after this tour, or book business class flights. Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

## IS THIS TOUR FOR ME?

This is a tour with a combination of walks and other activities. The walks include frequent stops to learn and inspect the varied plant life and vary in length and difficulty, please see the detailed descriptions of the walks in the itinerary. There will be some ascent and descent and walking on uneven trails. We recommend you wear good sturdy walking shoes or boots. Although this is not a specialist walking tour, it is an active trip.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK ONLINE](#)

## LOCAL ISLAND GUIDE

Our local guide on the island is Ian Hutton who moved to Lord Howe Island in 1980 and has been a resident ever since. A biologist, Ian moved to the island to work as a weather observer and has since become the foremost expert on the flora and fauna of the island. He has published several books and operates guided walking and nature tours. He is a keen photographer and describes his life on Lord Howe Island as 'like living inside a David Attenborough documentary'. Ian is a recipient of the OAM Medal of the Order of Australia





# DAILY ITINERARY

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**Friday 28 November 2025**  
**New Zealand - Sydney**

Meals: In-flight/D

Flight: 3.5 hours

Overnight: Sydney

Depart Auckland for Sydney, arrive mid afternoon and head into downtown Sydney to check into your hotel in the heart of the city and close to the Opera House, Botanic Gardens and The Rocks.

Your group welcome dinner will be held this evening.

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**Saturday 29 November**  
**Sydney - Lord Howe Island**

Meals: B/D

Flight: 2 hours

Overnight: Leanda Lei Apts,  
Lord Howe Island

Depart Sydney for Lord Howe Island early afternoon and arrive on the island mid afternoon. Check into your home for the next seven nights: Leanda Lei Apartments.

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**Sunday 30 November to**  
**Friday 5 December**  
**Lord Howe Island**

Meals: B/L/D daily

Overnight: Hobart

On Lord Howe Island we will be guided by the advice of our local guide, Ian Hutton as to which activities and walks to undertake. These may be adjusted based on local weather conditions and tides. For this reason, we have listed below the walks and activities that may be included. The activities will be decided when we are on the island based on weather and sea conditions. At an evening briefing, we will discuss the plan for the next day. The walking distances, elevation gains and terrains are described in more detail in the itinerary.

You can expect the following activities and walks during your stay:

- Introductory bus tour of the island
  - North Bay day trip
  - Glass bottom boat trip
  - 4 guided walks
  - 1 free day for optional activities or at leisure.
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**Saturday 6 December**  
**Lord Howe - Sydney**  
**-Auckland**

Meals: B/in-flight

Flights; 2 hours and 3.5 hours

Depart the island this morning back to Sydney, and then connect to your home-bound flight to Auckland or you may choose to stay on in Australia. The Calder & Lawson Tours team can assist with any post tour arrangements in Australia.



# INCLUDED ACTIVITIES AND DAY TRIPS

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## **North Bay day trip**

You will have a full day trip to North Bay. Travelling by boat, you will arrive at a pristine beach on the northern tip of the island. This beach is inaccessible by land. The waters are teeming with life and a snorkelers paradise. Colourful corals, turtles, stingrays and 500 species of fish abound here. The action is not just under the water, the birdlife here is spectacular and on a short walk you will look out for colonies of sooty terns, brown noddies, black noddies, as well as red-tailed tropicbirds and waders. Lunch today is a barbeque.

## **Evening talks**

Ian will host two evening talks where you will learn of the history, plants, birds and the story of the world heritage status of Lord Howe Island. The first talk will be a general introduction of the island, geology, flora, fauna, marine life and conservation wins and challenges. The second will focus on the birds of Lord Howe Island – learn about the land birds, seabirds and their life patterns, visitor birds and conservation stories around the rescue of the endangered Woodhen, endemic to the island.

## **WALKS**

The following are a series of walks and activities that may be undertaken. Please note that not all these activities will be possible in the time you have on the island and they are subject to local weather conditions, tides and the interests and walking abilities of the group.

## **Boat Harbour**

Set off on a nature walk with a focus on the island's birdlife. Observe the wading birds at Mosely Park then walk on to Muttonbird Point for viewing of the masked boobies nesting there. Continue on to a small stream called Rocky Run, then on to Boat Harbour for a picnic lunch. The track is narrow in parts and is interspersed with tree roots, rocks, fallen vegetation and leaf litter. Enjoy the tall rainforest on the walk back over Smoking Tree Ridge to Lagoon Road. 7km; altitude 100m.

## **Transit Hill**

An easy walk to a viewing platform that offers a magnificent 360-degree view of Lord Howe Island and a perfect spot for an introduction to the island's history, topography and flora. On the walk, look for tall palm and rain forest species including the islands signature plants, the Kentia and Curly Palms. 3 km, 120m altitude.

## **Little Island**

A short afternoon walk to the base of the mountains through tall palm and massive banyan trees, stunning scenery and geology. Here you will have the opportunity to learn of the volcanic origins of the island. The track is a four-wheel drive flat track of 1km each way.

## **Malabar**

A climb to 200m altitude to discover more of the islands plant species. This walk does include a fairly steep climb but you will have breaks along the way and your effort will be rewarded by stunning views and a very good spot to sit and enjoy the dramatic scenes of red-tailed tropic birds flying off the cliffs. 4km, 200m altitude.

## **Low tide reef walk at Ned's Beach rock platform**

Two hours exploring the rockpools to see and learn about the marine creatures of the intertidal areas. Minimal walking distance however you will be hopping around reef and rockpools so suitable sandals or reef shoes are required.

## **Intermediate Hill**

Climb through rainforest to a viewing platform for 360 degree views including Ball's Pyramid. Three hours return. 3 km, 250m altitude.

# OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

One full day will be set aside for you to take an optional activity. You are very welcome to take this day as a day at leisure to rest and enjoy the beach or explore the island at your own pace. See below for some optional activities (additional costs apply)

## **Biking**

There are 13 km of cycle pathways both on road and off road for you to explore. The speed limit on the island is just 25km per hour which makes for safe, hassle free biking. There are no e-bikes on the island.

## **Golf**

A picturesque and challenging 9 hole golf course meanders through the lushly vegetated Kentia palm forest out into gently undulating open fairways along the ocean foreshore. Rental clubs are available.

## **Fishing**

The fishing around Lord Howe Island is widely regarded as some of the most diverse, most extensive and most exciting in the world. The entire island is surrounded by the Lord Howe Island Marine Park, which protects the water and its inhabitants. It also helps that there is no commercial fishing anywhere in the region but recreational fishing is allowed. Several charter companies offer half and full day trips and provide all the tackle and gear required. Deep sea fishing for marlin is possible.

## **Walk Mount Gower**

This is a walk only for the very fit: climbing from sea level to 875 metres above sea level – 4 hours each way with some rope assistance on the steep parts. A strenuous climb and a long day starting at 7am. Bus transport to and from the start of the track. You need lunch, water, rain jacket and good walking shoes or boots. 9km, 875m altitude. This is rated as one of the best one-day hikes in the world and the reward for your efforts will be spectacular views and a great sense of achievement.

## **Ball's Pyramid boat trip**

Ball's Pyramid is the tallest volcanic stack in the world, 23km from Lord Howe Island. The boat will go around the island before heading to Ball's Pyramid. It is popular with sightseers, photographers and bird watchers. 3.5 - 4 hours duration. The boat trip requires calm weather and is not always available.





## HOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE ON THIS TOUR

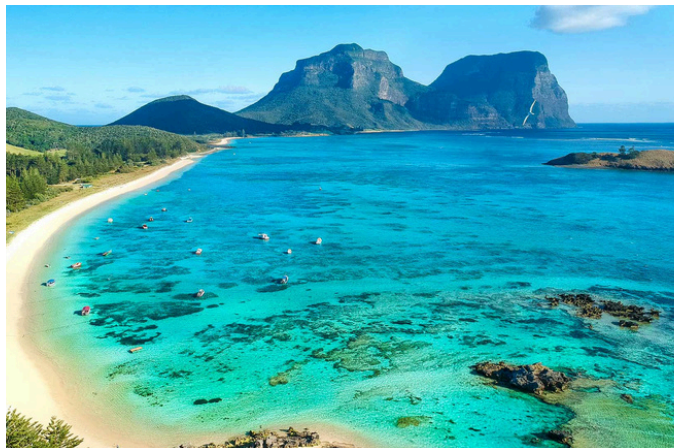
A deposit of \$1,000 is required to secure your place on the tour. This deposit becomes non-refundable once the tour has reached minimum numbers and becomes a confirmed departure.

Click below to complete the online registration form, pay the \$1,000 deposit, and your place on this tour is secured. Or you can complete a paper registration form. You can download one from our website [www.calderandlawsonstours.co.nz/forms](http://www.calderandlawsonstours.co.nz/forms) or give us a call and we will email or post one to you.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Can be found on our website [www.calderandlawsonstours.co.nz/forms](http://www.calderandlawsonstours.co.nz/forms), on the back of the paper registration form, or on the summary page when you complete an online registration. There is a 1.5% surcharge if you pay by Visa or MasterCard or 3% for American Express.

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