

NEWS CORNER

Welcome to the world of small ship destination cruising with Captain Cook Cruises. In Australia, Great Barrier Reef and Murray River cruises are available for between 2 and 7 nights, along with Sightseeing, Dining and 2-Night Weekend Cruises in Sydney. In Fiji, enjoy the Reef Escape, Sailing Safaris, Tivua Island Overnight and Day cruises. Honeymoon specials are available and the Great Barrier Reef and Fiji Island cruises offer great scuba diving opportunities.

BOOK EARLY FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

October to March are the busiest months for travel within Australia and New Zealand, particularly for visitors from overseas who wish to escape the Northern Hemisphere winter and enjoy the Australian sun, lifestyle and friendly people! Every year we receive a very large number of booking requests that we cannot satisfy because all of the vehicles are already fully committed. If you are in a position to make a decision now, please let us know so we can secure a vehicle and, hopefully, confirm your reservation. If you cannot book now, we will certainly do our best to assist when you are in a position to proceed. As the specialist International wholesale reservations office representing the major companies we are better placed than anyone else, particularly with motorhomes, campervans and 4WD's, to find the ideal vehicle for your trip with the best value. We also offer cars, station wagons, 4-wheel drives, minibuses, cruises & yacht charter.



FEATURE DESTINATION – AUSTRALIA



Australia is a very popular and safe tourist destination. It offers its travellers a wide variety of experiences, from the well-known sandy beaches and reefs of the coastline, to the tropical rainforests of the north and the barren deserts of inland Australia. Attractions include the Great Barrier Reef, Ayers Rock, Kakadu National Park, the Great Dividing Range and The Kimberleys.

Any time is a good time to be in Australia. Summer is from December through to February and temperatures can be quite high during this time in all states except Tasmania which has milder weather. This time is a good time for going to the beaches of Southern Australia and along the coast. Up north it is the wet season and is also very hot and sticky as the humidity is quite high. From June until August the weather cools down a little and dries up a lot in the north and this is a more comfortable time to see Northern Australia. It is also a good time to head for the snowfields in Victoria and NSW.

Most people harbour a particular image of Australia, such as the Opera House or Uluru, formerly known as Ayers Rock. Yet these famous icons do scant justice to the richness of Australia's natural treasures and its cultural diversity. Australia offers a wealth of travel experiences, from the drama of the outback and the spectacle of the Great Barrier Reef to the cosmopolitanism of Sydney and arguably the best beaches in the world. Australia is an enormous country, and visitors expecting to see an opera in Sydney one night and meet Crocodile Dundee the next will have to re-think their grasp of geography. It is this sheer vastness which gives Australia much of its character. So come and enjoy the scenery, the safety and the warmth of the Australian people.

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STAFF PROFILE

Martin Prentice – Senior Reservations Consultant

Martin hails from Hertfordshire, just north of London, and moved out to Australia just over a year ago. He joined Drive Travel in December 2000 and has rapidly become an integral member of the team. After university he has spent the past six years travelling around the world, working in America, Australia and visiting Africa, Asia and much of Europe. He also gained valuable experience working for two years with the Youth Hostel association in the UK.

Martin especially enjoys helping people to plan their trips around Europe where his local knowledge can often be invaluable. In particular, his UK knowledge is a great help to the numerous tourists that visit his homeland every year.

A great sport lover, Martin plays soccer for his local Mornington Club as well as enjoying golf, squash, tennis and swimming. He lives by Birdrock Beach in Mt Martha in constant fear of the huntsmen and whitetail spiders!

to **REGISTER A FRIEND** to receive the newsletter each month, simply email
sales@drivetravel.com