

COBA Study Abroad Tour

Australia



**Travel with us from
May 10-26, 2012 to:**

**Sydney & Melbourne
Australia**

**Application and/or trip
information:**

**Betsy Ball – COBA #134
254-968-9053
bball@tarleton.edu**

Dear Fellow Travelers!!

I am so excited that you are interested in the May 10-26, 2012 COBA Study Tour to Australia!!! We are going to have an incredible adventure together and I am thrilled that you want to be a part of it. Dr. David Deviney and I are planning a trip that we expect will be a highlight of your university experience and education. We will immerse you in a new culture, visit business, government and university offices, tour cultural and historical sites, learn about doing business internationally and.... oh yes, we will have a lot of fun!!

Australia is the gateway to the Southeast Asian economy and we will be visiting two major cities, Sydney and Melbourne. I expect that we will challenge our understandings and plunge ourselves into a new culture, without going too far outside our comfort zones. After all, we will have no language barrier since the official language of Australia is English! But there will be lots to learn and lots to experience -- it will be great for anyone who has traveled Erath County or traveled the globe.

Unfortunately, it is expensive to go half way around the globe, but this will be an investment in your future. The trip fee of \$5100 includes air travel, transportation (note that we will be walking sometimes within cities), lodging (double occupancy), breakfast, two group dinners and most excursions. There are also optional excursions available to you at an additional fee. And remember, things always seem to be more expensive than we want or expect them to be, so budget accordingly. You will want to bring back memorabilia from your trip. Plan your budget well.

You may earn credit for undergraduate or graduate courses in **International Business, International Marketing or International Management** or a graduate level **International Human Resource Management** course. In other words: GB 489, MGMT 489, MKTG 489, GB 589, MGMT 589, MKTG 589, or HRM 589. Normal tuition and fees will apply and are not included in the trip fee.

So fill out an application (instructions below). Go to or call the Administration Building and pay your deposit. And plan to travel, learn and enjoy!!

Betsy Ball
254-968-9053
bball@tarleton.edu

To Sign Up for COBA Study Abroad Australia:

First, make sure you have all the information you need. Come ask me questions. Talk it up with your friends. Get other students who are excited about this opportunity to join you in this adventure. Then --

Fill out the attached application form with all the necessary information.

A complete deposit schedule is forthcoming but for now, if you are a Stephenville student, go to the Cashier's Window (where you pay bills for school) and pay your \$250 non-refundable deposit to secure your spot on this trip. You will make your deposit to COBA Study Abroad - Ball - Australia. If you are an off campus student, call the Cashier at (254) 968-9607 and pay this deposit using MasterCard, Visa or Discover. If you are off-campus and want to pay by check contact Betsy Ball. Bring or forward your application to Betsy Ball.

Then, you are signed up!!

Get your passport!! See www.travel.state.gov for details.

If you are international students, talk with me ASAP regarding your VISA requirements for Australia. Please note, US citizens will also need a VISA to travel to Australia. We will have more information on these requirements at a later date.

Tentative Schedule - COBA Study Abroad Australia 2011 – please note all events are subject to change. Also, breakfast is included but other meals are on your own unless otherwise specified. This also means you can control your budget for meals!!

Thursday, May 10th

Depart Sydney, Australia

Friday, May 11th

En route to Australia

Saturday, May 12th

Arrive in Sydney. Meet your guide and transfer to accommodation.

Free time for lunch

This afternoon, you'll head down to famous Circular Quay and to the iconic Sydney Opera House. Here you'll meet your local guide for an on AND off the beaten track tour through the heart of Sydney. You'll get to see the Sydney Harbor Bridge, The Rocks area, the Customs House, the Sydney Opera House, the Royal Botanic Gardens.... and more. At the end of this walk you'll be well-equipped with all of the 'Sydney in a nutshell' facts you need to know to get the most out of your time in Sydney - including where history happened, where movies were filmed, what locals like to do, and how to get the most out of Sydney's museums and attractions.

Tonight a group welcome dinner is included

Overnight: Sydney

Sunday, May 13th

After breakfast, you'll board a bus for a full day tour of the Blue Mountains! The first stop is Featherdale Wildlife Park, where you can pat the kangaroos and wallabies, get a photo up close to a koala, check out the wombats, Tasmanian Devils or take a look at the crocodile together with an extensive Australian native bird collection. We also stop at Katoomba at the Scenic World Complex for the cable car and scenic railway rides. You'll enjoy a short bushwalk to Prince's Rock for incredible views of the waterfalls and cliffs of the Blue Mountains National Park. Leave the crowds behind and enter the peace and tranquility of a World Heritage listed national park. This awesome bushwalk takes you down the cliff, past waterfalls and untouched rainforest. See the famous Three Sisters rock formation and hear the Aboriginal legends.

Overnight: Sydney

Monday, May 14th

This morning will begin with a business meeting.

This afternoon, travel out to the world famous Bondi Beach. The crashing waves, flashy cafes, rocky scenic points, grassy picnic lawns and vibrant boardwalk, all lend itself to the magic of Bondi. Opt to take a beautiful 5km walk from Bondi along the Coogee Clifftop Trail.

Overnight: Sydney

Tuesday, May 15th

Today is an early start, with an exciting visit to Sydney's Fish Market! With over 33 million pounds of seafood shipped through here annually, this bustling market is THE place to introduce yourself to a bewildering array of mud crabs, Balmain bugs, lobsters, oysters, mullet, rainbow trout, salmon, scallops and so much more.

This afternoon, you'll have a business meeting

Overnight: Sydney

Wednesday, May 16th

Morning business meeting

This afternoon, if you're feeling adventurous, you can take advantage of this optional tour to get the best view of Sydney and its harbor, from atop the Sydney Harbour Bridge! That's right, you'll get a jumpsuit and cable connecting you to the bridge, and climb to the top while learning about the history of the bridge and the beginnings of Sydney. It is truly an unforgettable experience.

Overnight: Sydney

Thursday, May 17th

This morning begins with a guided tour of the most iconic building in all of Australia, the Sydney Opera House! More than 60 years ago, Jorn Utzon designed what is now considered one of the greatest buildings of all time. But for Utzon, the Sydney Opera House story was no fairytale. The Essential Tour brings to life the saga behind the making of the world's most famous house. Using state-of-the-art audiovisual technology, your welcoming guide will take you on an

emotional journey inside this modern masterpiece. The tour puts Jorn Utzon on centre stage and is a tribute to his creative genius. You will discover why Utzon was more than an architect: he was an architect of change. And how, against a landslide of political and public criticism, he created the youngest building ever world heritage listed. We'll take you inside one of our working venues to experience the magic behind the world's most extraordinary opera, ballet, symphony and dramatic performances.

After lunch, you will have a business meeting

Overnight: Sydney

Friday, May 18th

This morning will be your final business meeting in Sydney

The afternoon is free to continue exploring this great city!

Overnight: Sydney

Saturday, May 19th

Your final day in Sydney is a free day! There are endless things on hand to do, or you can opt to get out of the city and visit the famed Hunter Valley for wine and beer tasting! Visit Award Winning Wineries offering a range of experiences including sampling a great selection of red, white and fortified wines, not to mention the famous chili schnapps!

Overnight: Sydney

Sunday, May 20th

Today you'll be picked up and taken to Sydney Airport, where you'll then fly on to Melbourne. Meet your guide at the airport and transfer to your accommodation.

A group welcome dinner is included tonight in the culinary capital of Australia.

Overnight: Melbourne

Monday, May 21st

Today begins with a walking tour of Melbourne to familiarize yourself with the city! You'll learn about the Woi wurrung and Boon wurrung people, the traditional owners of the land. We can trace the history of early settlement and learn of the tragedies suffered by Aboriginal people at the hands of early European settlers. Discover the rich history of Melbourne's immigration and

migrant policies, which has provided the backbone for the city's cultural diversity. Experience Melbourne's famed laneways and digest some of the liberal art work that adorns many inner-city arcades and laneways. Familiarize yourself with some of Melbourne's iconic architecture and learn about the history of some of these buildings including Federation Square, the M.C.G and Flinders Street Station. Learn about Melbourne's diehard sporting culture, and the rich cultural scene of music and popular arts – just some of the elements which has seen Melbourne crowned as one of the world's most livable cities!

This afternoon will be your first business meeting in Melbourne

Overnight: Melbourne

Tuesday, May 22nd

Morning business meeting

This afternoon, you'll visit the National Gallery of Victoria for a guided tour of Australian Art. This includes local artists as well as indigenous artwork, and you will learn the meanings behind these moving pieces.

Overnight: Melbourne

Wednesday, May 23rd

Morning business meeting

This afternoon, you'll visit the most famous market in Melbourne, the Queen Victoria Market, and one of the largest open-air markets in the southern hemisphere. It has been a market for more than 125 years and over 600 traders hock their wares here. You can find everything here, from live chickens, to souvenir t-shirts and homemade pasta. It's a cultural experience not to be missed!

Overnight: Melbourne

Thursday, May 24th

After breakfast, we'll get an early start to make our way along the Victorian coastline and probably the most famous road in Australia, The Great Ocean Road! This coastline drive is spectacular! It is home to some of the best surf beaches in Australia and including Bells Beach, just voted the best beach in Australia! You'll pass through the Great Otway National Park and make sure you have your cameras ready as wild koalas are often seen in the trees! Continue on

to the famous Twelve Apostles rock formation. These lonely rocky stacks have been abandoned to the ocean by eroding headland. Today, their numbers have dwindled down to seven apostles as they are being eroded away, so see them while they're still there! Then continue on toward Port Campbell to see the Arch and a partially fallen down "London Bridge." Return to Melbourne tonight.

Overnight: Melbourne

Friday, May 25^h

Today will be your final business meeting and then time for a class wrap!

Free time this afternoon before meeting up tonight to discover the unique local sport, Australian Rules Football! Cheer on the home team tonight as you experience Victoria's most beloved sport

Overnight: Melbourne

Saturday, May 26^h

Check out of your accommodation and transfer to the airport for the return journey home!

Potential Business Visits

In Sydney, 4-5 meetings from the following (depending on which ones are available for meetings, etc.):

Australian Technology Park briefing

Bluescope Steel briefing

Telstra briefing

Austrade briefing

NSW Industry and Investment briefing

Gloria Jean's Gourmet Coffee briefing

Westpac Bank briefing

NAB Bank briefing

ANZ Bank briefing

Commonwealth Bank briefing

Macquarie Bank briefing

KPMG briefing

E&Y briefing

Deloitte briefing

PWC briefing

BDO Seidman briefing

Westfields briefing

Baker & McKenzie briefing

Davies, Collison, Cave briefing

Etc.

For Melbourne 3-4 meetings from the following (depending on which ones are available for meetings, etc.):

ASX briefing

Ford Motor Company briefing

Salt mines/gold mines tour/company briefing

Austrade briefing

Victorian Government Industry and Investment briefing

CSL Ltd. briefing

Westpac Bank briefing

NAB Bank briefing

ANZ Bank briefing

Commonwealth Bank briefing

Macquarie Bank briefing

KPMG briefing

E&Y briefing

Deloitte briefing

PWC briefing

BDO Seidman briefing

Rockwell Automation briefing

Costco Australia briefing

Etc.