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INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views. Discover common ground.



South Pacific eFlyer

March 2019

The Journeys listed in the South Pacific eFlyer are open to all ambassadors, representing some of the many places where you can experience new cultures and expand your global circle of friends.

If you are interested in any of the following Journeys, please contact the Journey Coordinator directly.

Journey Number 15047

Sydney, Australia to Greater Orlando, USA Mexico City, Mexico and Trujillo, Peru

Journey Dates:

22 April to 14 May 2019

Price:

Approximately AUD \$4500

Includes all International and Domestic Flights, FFI and Host Fees; excludes additional tours.

Journey Coordinator:

John Eames

johneames@lqms.com.au

M: 0408 916 246

Host Clubs:

[FF Greater Orlando, USA](#)

[FF Mexico City, Mexico](#)

[FF Trujillo, Peru](#)

Sydney Friendship Force Club would love for you to join our 'Journey of Diversity' in 2019 to Greater Orlando, USA; Mexico City, Mexico; and Trujillo, Peru. It is an opportunity too good to miss. We are a great, fun-loving and active group looking forward to sharing our experiences with like-minded Friendship Force members.

There is more to Orlando than just Disney World and theme parks. Discover the natural beauty of this city and its surrounds.



Discover a City of Laughter, Music, Churches, Canals, Floating Gardens and Pyramids from an Ancient Civilisation.



Learn to dance the Marinera, visit The Moche Temples of the Sun and the Moon, and the 15th century mud brick city of Chan Chan.



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Journey Number 15080

Sunshine Coast, Australia to Albuquerque and Austin, USA

Journey Dates:
10-27 May 2019

Price:
TBD

Journey Coordinator:
Jenny Allan
Tel: 07 5493 9695
Mob: 0448 866 141

Host Clubs:
FF New Mexico
FF Austin

If you want a different cultural experience but in an English-speaking country, this Journey to Albuquerque, New Mexico and to Austin, Texas, offers some unique highlights. Albuquerque is in the only bilingual state (Spanish/English) in the USA. Also the Pueblo peoples have been there for more than 1,000 years and form 10% of the population. Types of activities on offer are a trolley tour of Albuquerque, a day in Santa Fe, a tram ride to the Sandia Mountains and a visit to the spectacular Acoma Pueblo. Dates are 10 - 17 May.

We are planning to spend three nights in Houston/Galveston Bay, Texas, between the two Journeys visiting the Space Center Houston, the world renowned coastal visitor center at NASA's astronaut training and flight control complex. Dates are 17 - 20 May.

Austin is the state capital of Texas and the centre of an eclectic live music scene centred on country, blues and rock. The Austin Club has promised to treat us with "real Texan hospitality." Dates are 20 - 27 May.

To secure a position, I will be requesting \$500 as a deposit which comprises \$140 for each Journey (\$280) and the remainder of \$220 as a downpayment towards the final Journey costs. The deposit and the Ambassador Application and Agreement Forms should be returned to me by 10 November 2018. I will send details of our Journey Account and the Application Forms upon request.

Members would pay for their own return flights to the U.S.A., any internal flights, three nights hotel in Houston between the two Journeys and transport by Megabus to Austin.

I would love to hear from any members who would be interested in joining us on this exciting Journey and we would be more than pleased to have them accompany us.



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Journey Number 15109

Brisbane, Australia to Western Colorado and Reno-Tahoe, USA

Journey Dates:

29 May to 19 June, 2019

Price:

USD \$280 plus Host Fees.

Western Colorado has indicated that the Club fee should be USD \$150 plus optional extras, depending what we decided to do e.g. a float trip on the Colorado River (USD \$65).

Reno-Tahoe have advised their fee will be USD \$200 plus optional extras, e.g. a 2 hour boat ride on Lake Tahoe (USD \$50).

The Amtrak fares should be in the vicinity of AUD \$130

Journey Coordinator:

Dennis McLean

Phone: 07 34913734

Mob: 0412 711866

Host Clubs:

[FF Western Colorado](#)

[FF Reno-Tahoe](#)

There are only three places available on these exciting Journeys to Western Colorado and Reno-Tahoe. Applications are required no later than 30 November 2018 to enable group bookings on Amtrak trains.

Our trip commences on 29 May with a three-night stay in Denver, Colorado, where we will spend three days sightseeing around the Mile High City. On 1 June we travel by Amtrak train to our first hosting with the Friendship Force Club of Western Colorado in Grand Junction.

Grand Junction is west of the Rocky Mountains on the Colorado plateau with access to the mountains, high desert and red-rock country. The city is located in the Colorado River valley, close to the border with Utah. There is a lot of prehistory in the area with a dinosaur museum and quarry and Native American petroglyphs. The Colorado national monument is adjacent to the town. There is so much to see in this area and a float trip on the Colorado River is a must.

On 8 June we will travel by Amtrak train to Salt Lake City, Utah for a break of 3 days, free time, between our 2 hostings. Here we can explore this beautiful city including Temple Square, Utah Natural History Museum, the city and surrounds and much more.

We travel by overnight Amtrak Train to Reno on 11 June, arriving there on the morning of 12 June for our week's stay with Reno-Tahoe club. At nearly a mile high, this region is nestled at the base of the eastern slope of the mighty Sierra Nevada Mountains. Lake Tahoe, which sparkles like a clear blue gem, is one hour's drive away. Virginia City, takes a person back to the Old West with narrow streets, shops and saloons that have bars and chandeliers dating back to the 1800s.



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Journey Number 15093

New Plymouth, New Zealand to Cairns and North Moreton, Australia

Journey Dates:

May 2019

Price:

\$2000-\$2500 NZD including FFI and Host Fees

Journey Coordinator:

Claire Patten

06-757 882 or 0274296998

clairepattendance@gmail.com

Host Clubs:

[FF Cairns](#)

[FF North Moreton](#)

This is an opportunity to extend our summer for just a few more days with Journeys to the tropical climes of Australia.

We will start with a few days in sunny Brisbane before our first hosting at North Moreton, which is in the northern part of Brisbane. This area also has so much to offer - beautiful beaches, scenic mountains, lakes, rainforest walks, boutique wineries, kangaroos on the doorstep - it's all there. There might be a chance to walk through the rainforest near the Glasshouse Mountains Marvel and hear the calls of the whip birds.

How about a cruise up Pumicestone Passage or along the Brisbane River, and enjoy a barbeque at sunset as the kangaroos hop nearby? Let's enjoy a walk along one of the most beautiful beaches in the world at Bribie Island. We will have a chance to get close to a koala at the fabulous Australia Zoo, the creation of legendary Crocodile Man, Steve Irwin. When we want a little history, we can visit Redcliffe which was the first settlement in Queensland and was once a penal colony.

We move north to our tropical hosting at FF Cairns, an area with balmy weather, tropical flowers and palm trees, beaches to be enjoyed, and golf courses to be played. Think Cairns, think Great Barrier Reef. Where we might enjoy a perfect day of snorkelling, scuba diving or viewing from a glass-bottom boat. Or for the more adventurous, go big game fishing. A visit to the Tablelands is a must, with beautiful scenery and a skyrail tour over the rainforest to Kuranda Village. We might also visit the Wet Tropics of Queensland world heritage site, and spend time just lazing about in the sunshine.



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Journey Number 15124

Tauranga WBOP, New Zealand to Tweed Valley and Central Coast, Australia

Journey Dates:

June 2019

Price:

\$1500-\$2000 NZD including
FFI and Host Fees

Journey Coordinator:

Jonathon Spink

07-5722091

jono.bspink@gmail.com or

Barbara Proctor

07-574 5711

taurangawbop@friendshipforce.org.nz

Host Clubs:

[FF Tweed Valley](#)

[FF Central Coast](#)

June is a great time to get away from the winter weather, and what better than a Journey to our Aussie cousins for this.

The weather will be warm and balmy, and the beaches inviting – they boast the best in the world, and we'll get time to check out whether this is true. The Tweed Valley offers the greatest variety of Australian landscapes for us to see, There is Mount Warning, one of the largest shield volcanoes in the Southern Hemisphere, and the nearby National Parks at Nightcap, Border Ranges, Springbrook and Lamington which all abound with subtropical fauna and flora. Of course, we are just down the road from the Coolangatta and the Gold Coast and all they have to offer.

After a week with our new friends, we move south to FF Central Coast located just north of Sydney. The region is a network of towns such as Gosford, Brisbane Waters, Wyong, Tuggerah, Lakehaven, The Entrance, Terrigal and Woy Woy, and many people who live here commute daily to Sydney for work. The main drivers are tourism, manufacturing and retirement, and include the Hunter Valley region with its mining, heavy industry and port. The Aboriginal people have inhabited this region for thousands of years, and the Guringai and Darkinjung tribes some of the first to come into contact with the settlers.

Please get in touch if this Journey appeals.



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Journey Number 15112

Blue Mountains, Australia to Toulouse, France and Bristol, UK

Journey Dates:

26 June to 10 July 2019

Price:

Approximately AUD \$1000

Includes FFI and Host fees,
but not airfares to and from
Europe and between Toulouse
and Bristol.

Journey Coordinator:

Robert Clarke
randnclarke@internode.on.net

Host Clubs:

[FF Toulouse, France](#)

[FF Bristol, UK](#)



Interest in this Journey from Blue Mountains Club Members and other FF Clubs has been very positive, but there are a few spaces still available.

Those involved at present are looking to travel separately or in small groups to rendezvous in Toulouse on the evening of Tuesday 25 June, then enjoying the hospitality of Toulouse Club members and experiencing the many delights that this region has to offer. Toulouse is the capital of France's Southern Occitane Region near the Spanish border. It's known as 'La Ville Rose' (The Pink City), with outstanding Basilicas and Churches, UNESCO World Heritage Sites and is the home of the European Aerospace industry.

After the short flight to Bristol, we will be in the homes and hands of the Bristol Club Members who have a host of scenic, historic, maritime and industrial sights to choose from for our interest and enjoyment during our seven night stay. Isambard Brunel's iron steamer, the SS Great Britain, has pride of place in a drydock adjoining the harbour and the ancient City of Bath is only 20 km away.

Following the Bristol Journey, ambassadors will be free to add to their British or European experience during the warm European summer months, before returning home.



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Journey Number 15110

Gold Coast, Australia to Chicago, USA and Winnipeg and Saskatoon, Canada

Journey Dates:
22 June - 18 July

Price:
FFI Fees AUD\$590
Airlines AUD\$2700 not including flight to Calgary.
Chicago overnight (approx) AUD\$150
Flight Chicago to Winnipeg (approx) AUD\$300

Journey Coordinator:
Janette McKeon
j.mckeon2509@gmail.com

Margaret Harris
margharris@gmail.com

John McIntyre
johnmcintyre@bigpond.com

Host Clubs:
[FF Chicago](#)
[FF Winnipeg](#)
[FF Saskatoon](#)

Chicago: Wonderful Architecture, Botanical Gardens, other historical areas and an outdoor concert plus other activities.



Winnipeg: July 1, is Canada Day with lots of activities to participate in. Learn about the indigenous people and the fur trade. Other activities include visits to the Mint, Zoo and the countryside.



Saskatoon: Wanuskewin – First National Heritage Site with a presentation of their culture, dance and tipi building. There is also a Folk and John Arcand Fiddle Festivals.



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Journey Number 15382

Global Journey to FFI World Conference and USA clubs

Journey Dates:

13 July - 7 August, 2019

Price:

\$6,000 NZD which includes FFI & Host Club fees, conference accommodation and registration, and all transport and accommodation, etc. ex. Auckland.

Journey Coordinator:

Colin Ridge (Taupo)

07-3785088

colinjanet123@gmail.com or

Debbie Lattey 04-2933252

debbie@otaihanga.co.nz

Host Clubs:

[FF Flathead Valley](#)

[FF Cedar Rapids-Iowa City](#)

This Journey has been set up so members can attend the FFI World Conference at Boulder, Colorado 23-27 July 2019. It is open for ambassadors globally. Our first homestay prior to Conference is with FF Flathead Valley, an area beautifully situated in the north west corner of Montana, just west of the Rocky Mountains and only 65 km south of the Canadian border. A typical 7-day Journey might include visits to the museums of early settlers and Native Americans, a botanical garden tour, a visit to a bison ranch, a cruise on Flathead Lake, a chairlift ride at a ski resort, an outdoor concert and especially a full day exploring Glacier National Park.

We move to Denver where we will spend 2-3 days sightseeing around that Mile High City. We've reached July 23, and it's up the road to Boulder for the FFI World Conference until July 27. You will need to register for this online [here](#).

Our hosting after the Conference is with the FF of Cedar Rapids/Iowa. We travel to our hosting by overnight Amtrak which is an opportunity to see the countryside. This is a special corner of the world where fields of tall corn dance in the wind and where the land varies from flat to rolling hills covered with trees. But, make no mistake, they offer much more to visiting ambassadors. They have diverse cultures to explore including the Meskwaki Indian Settlement; Kalona, an Amish community; the Amanas, a German communal society and Czech Village, and immigrant workers from Bohemia. Ambassadors can visit one of many museums such as the Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum, the African-American Museum, the Czech & Slovak Museum, and many more.

Dates:

July 13-19 Flathead Valley, Montana (Hosting)

20-22 Denver, Colorado (Hotel)

23-27 Boulder, Colorado for Conference

28-3 Cedar Rapids City, Iowa (Hosting)

August 4-7 Chicago, Illinois (Hotel)



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Journey Number 15154

Southern Sydney, Australia to Edmonton and Area and Manitoba and Greater Harrisburg

Journey Dates:

August 2019

Price:

\$1,400 AUD

Includes FFI and Host Fees
but not airfares

Journey Coordinator:

Teresa Whitters

0403 711 249

twffss@outlook.com

Host Clubs:

[FF Edmonton and Area](#)

[FF Manitoba](#)

[FF Greater Harrisburg](#)

The FF Southern Sydney club is excited at the opportunity of a triple Journey in August 2019 to Canada and the east coast of the USA.

If you decide to join us you will have the chance to see diverse parts of Canada, starting in Edmonton near the beautiful Canadian Rocky Mountains, which you could visit en route if you so desired. Then we fly to the central province of Manitoba near Lake Winnipeg. The Canadian countryside and its people are a joy to experience.

After a five-day individual break where everyone will be “doing their own thing,” we will gather in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA. This area is rife with the history of the American Civil War and has Amish and Mennonite communities which we will visit. We also have the chance to enjoy Hershey chocolates amongst many other cultural and culinary pleasures.

Some of us will be visiting nearby Washington and possibly staying in New York either during the break or after the Journeys have been completed. The choice is yours!

Please contact Teresa Whitters if you are interested in these Journeys or have any questions. We currently have space for 7 ambassadors and we'd love to meet and travel with you.

The host clubs have advised us that the cost of each Journey will be approximately C\$200/US\$200, although this may vary according to the final activity program. These costs exclude the airfares to and from Australia and the internal flights within North America.



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Journey Number 15048

Tamworth, Australia to Tbilisi, Georgia and Urla of Greater Izmir, Turkey

Journey Dates:

Mid-September to
mid-October 2019

Price:

Approximately AUD \$4500

Includes FFI and hosting fees,
visas, flights, hotel costs,
group tour travel between
and in Armenia, Georgia,
Istanbul and Turkey.

Journey Coordinator:

Marilyn Miller
millerm1@bigpond.com

Host Clubs:

[FF Tbilisi, Georgia](#)
[FF Urla of Greater Izmir,
Turkey](#)

Come and join us on this magical 24-day Journey. There are 6 – 8 vacancies.

Our Ambassador Coordinator, Marilyn, has already been to Georgia with Friendship Force. She loved it so much she is keen to go again! Reasons to go to Georgia? The people, and “Oh, the food!” Georgia is a land of pleasant surprises. Georgians regard guests as a gift from God, and hospitality carries real meaning for them. Tbilisi is regarded as one of the most authentic and charming capital cities of Eastern Europe.



Izmir is rated as one of the most fascinating areas of Turkey – thanks to its amazing past, reaching back to 3000 BC, breathtaking beauty, cosmopolitan life, geographical location on the Aegean Sea, and surrounding soft mountains. It has become a place tourists truly love. I have only heard people say they love Turkey and love Izmir. And don't forget Istanbul and Armenia.



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Journey Number 15255

Wellington to Cape of Good Hope, South Africa and Albany & Perth, Australia

Journey Dates:

27 October to 19 November
2019

Price:

NZ\$4500 (includes FFI & Host
Club fees, all travel and
accommodation). Plus
optional pre-Journey 13-day
Tour costs NZ\$5195.

Journey Coordinator:

Rhys Morris

04-567 7656

wellington@friendshipforce.org.nz

Host Clubs:

[FF Cape of Good Hope, South
Africa](#)

[FF Perth, Australia](#)

[FF Albany, Australia](#)

We have been lucky to be allocated this special Journey and Western Australia and South Africa. Will you join us?

Our first hosting is with FF Cape of Good Hope. Most members of the club live in the southern suburbs of Cape Town about 24 km from the city centre. Their Mediterranean climate will be comfortable during our visit. Most importantly, we will be able to learn about them, their culture, and the way they live in this rainbow nation.

We then move east to FF Perth on the Swan River. There we will enjoy visiting old Perth at the Perth Mint (early gold mining), the Barrack Street Jetty precinct and the Bell Tower (where we may take part in the bit of bell ringing). No Journey is complete without a visit to beautiful Kings Park, where we can take in the views of the city and wander through lush lawns and natural bushland and do the tree top walk. We will spend a day in the old port city of Fremantle to check out the old buildings and museums constructed by the early convicts. Plus shop at the markets and enjoy fish and chips for lunch at Fisherman's Wharf before enjoying a leisurely river cruise back to Perth city.

We then move south to our final hosting at FF Albany (population 34,000) situated on the south coast of Western Australia, which is approximately 400 kms south of the capital city of Perth. The main industries of the area are tourism, fishing (whaling), agriculture (woollen mills), forestry and wineries. The Port of Albany is steeped in history because it was the last view of Australia thousands of soldiers saw before sailing off to Europe and Gallipoli. The area has many National Parks and Reserves including Natural Bridge, the Gap, Stirling Range and Porongorup National Parks with beautiful flowers in springtime.

Above all, let's enjoy the company of our club members who will happily invite you into their homes - share with us group dinner hosting, barbecues and picnics.



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Call for Expressions of Interest

Journey Coordinators who anticipate that they will need to recruit from outside of their club to fill a Journey, but have not yet started planning, can advertise their Journey here.

Please submit the following:

- Journey Coordinator name and contact details
- Journey number (if you have one)
- Journey name
- Probable month of travel

Please submit Calls for Expressions of Interest to the contacts listed on the last page.

2019 AUS-NZ Outbound Journeys

FEBRUARY

15006 Perth, Australia to Alajuela, Costa Rica and Mundo Maya de Tuxtla Gutierrez and Sarasota, USA

MARCH

15028 Whangarei, New Zealand to Hobart and Newcastle, Australia

15014 Global - Explore Farming in New Zealand

15015 Adelaide, Australia to Aichi, Japan and Kauai, USA and Hamilton and Waikato, New Zealand

15017 Bundaberg, Australia to Thames Coromandel and Otago, New Zealand

15018 Casterton, Australia to Wanganui and Napier, New Zealand

15016 Salisbury and Northern Districts, Australia to Ehime, Japan

15019 Tweed Valley, Australia to Nashik Riverside, India and Nepal

15266 All Australia to Murray Bridge, Australia

APRIL

15046 Melbourne, Australia to Auckland-North Shore and Taupo, New Zealand

15045 Albany, Australia to Kampala, Uganda

15047 Sydney, Australia to Trujillo, Peru and Mexico City, Mexico and Greater Orlando, USA

15048 Tamworth, Australia to Urla of Greater Izmir, Turkey and Tbilisi, Georgia

MAY

15092 Napier, New Zealand to Norderstedt, Germany and Greater Izmir, Turkey

15093 New Plymouth, New Zealand to Cairns and North Moreton, Australia

15079 Kempsey, Australia to County Durham, United Kingdom and Hannover, Germany

15080 Sunshine Coast, Australia to Austin and New Mexico, USA

JUNE

15093 New Plymouth, New Zealand to Cairns and North Moreton, Australia

15109 Brisbane, Australia to Western Colorado and Reno-Tahoe, USA

15110 Gold Coast, Australia to Saskatoon and Winnipeg, Canada and Chicago, USA

15112 Blue Mountains, Australia to Toulouse, France and Bristol, England

15124 Tauranga-Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand to Tweed Valley and Central Coast, Australia

2019 AUS-NZ Outbound Journeys

JULY

15382 Global to Flathead Valley, Cedar Rapids-Iowa City and World Conference, USA

15286 Hamilton and Waikato, New Zealand to Malang, Yogyakarta and Jakarta, Indonesia

AUGUST

15154 Southern Sydney, Australia to Edmonton and Area and Manitoba and Greater Harrisburg

2019 AUS-NZ Inbound Journeys

FEBRUARY

15037 Derbyshire, United Kingdom to Wellington and South Taranaki, New Zealand

MARCH

15028 Whangarei, New Zealand to Hobart and Newcastle, Australia

15014 Global - Explore Farming in New Zealand

15017 Bundaberg, Australia to Thames Coromandel and Otago, New Zealand

15018 Casterton, Australia to Wanganui and Napier, New Zealand

15266 All Australia to Murray Bridge, Australia

15025 San Jose, Costa Rica to Sydney, Australia and Christchurch and Marlborough, New Zealand

15023 Quebec Region, Canada to Kapiti Coast and New Plymouth, New Zealand and Noumea, New Caledonia

15040 Kansas, USA to Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand and Murray Bridge, Australia

15038 Colonial Carolina, USA to Kempsey and North Moreton, Australia

APRIL

15046 Melbourne, Australia to Auckland-North Shore and Taupo, New Zealand

15056 Haliburton Highlands, Canada to Nelson and Southland, New Zealand and Mount Gambier, Australia

15052 Brandon and Area, Canada to Bundaberg and Blue Mountains, Australia

MAY

15093 New Plymouth, New Zealand to Cairns and North Moreton, Australia

15279 Oita, Japan to Southern Sydney and Mount Barker, Australia

15150 Western Tokyo, Japan to Perth, Australia

JUNE

15124 Tauranga-Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand to Tweed Valley and Central Coast, Australia

15111 South Taranaki and Manawatu, New Zealand to Brisbane and Tamworth, Australia



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South Pacific eFlyer

South Pacific eFlyer Submissions are due to the following contacts by the 20th of each month:

Australian contact:

John Stapleton

jstapleton@bigpond.com

New Zealand contact:

Colin Ridge

colinjanet123@gmail.com

FFI Contact:

Kimberly Fraser

kimberly@friendshipforce.org