

## Traverse the globe in style on Aurora's full World Circumnavigation

*If you love world travel, you'll love Aurora's 106 night World Cruise. Sailing across oceans and seas, there's no better way to experience the four corners of the globe. With many of the world's 'must see' destinations included, every day will be packed full of adventure.*

How you feel in the city of Sydney is very different to how you feel in Shanghai or San Francisco. The Pacific island of Papeete is quite unlike Thailand's Ko Samui. The capitalist metropolises of Japan and Dubai are a far cry from the ancient lands of Egypt and Israel. But on Aurora's 106 night World Circumnavigation you can experience it all.

This is a classic World Cruise, on a classic ship. Circumnavigating the globe west to east, Aurora will sail to a vast spectrum of countries and cultures, offering a wonderfully relaxed way to travel. And no matter where in the world she is visiting, the best of British (such as dining by Marco Pierre White) and all the little luxuries of home are there to enjoy on board. She also has a distinct international flair, from her bars to her theatre.

### *USA, Panama and the Pacific*

After an epic Atlantic crossing, stopping to enjoy the relaxed beaches and colourful chattel houses and vibrancy of the Caribbean, Aurora takes the quickest route to the Pacific, traversing the Panama Canal. A captivating few hours, when viewed from the decks of ship; the magnificent man-made locks compelling you through the muddy Amazon waters to the Pacific Ocean beyond, with panoramic views of the rainforest landscapes alongside.



Ko Samui



Great Wall of China



“You won’t come across many destinations as boastful as Dubai – its glitzy, glamorous and in constant development. The city’s newest icon, and the tallest building in the world, the 828 metre high Burj Khalifa, is impressive.”

Dubai



Shanghai

The Pacific coast is dotted with decadent islands and resorts, and Aurora will call into a number of them including Huatulco and Acapulco in Mexico and Honolulu in Hawaii. Then there are two full days in San Francisco. Cable cars, colourful Victorian terraced houses and the bustling shops and restaurants on Fisherman’s Wharf are some of the most popular sights here and you’ll love the buzz of the city by night. Whilst the iconic Golden Gate Bridge will grace your first and last views of the city.

Further out in the Pacific, you’ll discover the remote, tropical isles of Bora Bora, which boasts a stunning emerald blue green lagoon hugged by a scenic barrier reef and Papeete, with its beautiful black sand coves and lush unspoilt vistas. Both are shrouded in myths and legends.

### Discover life ‘down under’

Sprawling across a narrow isthmus between two harbours, multi-cultural Auckland looks out across the sparkling ocean. Known as the ‘City of Sails’, hundreds of yachts can often be seen scattered across its waters. From the top of its 328 metre high Sky Tower, you can enjoy stunning 360 degree views in all directions, including its nearby bush land and volcanic cones.

In Napier, further down the east coast of North Island, are some of the country’s oldest wineries, including Mission Estate. Sheltered by hills yet exposed to sea breezes its vineyards enjoy the perfect conditions. Mulling over life with a glass of wine in this art deco city is a must. Whilst in Wellington, a beautiful harbour, hills and a golden beach set the scene for this ‘cool’ capital. Ride a cable car to its botanical gardens or take a walk through native bush right near its hub.

Sailing through the ‘Heads’ into the waters of Sydney Harbour, past the Opera House and under Harbour Bridge, is sure to be one of the most memorable moments of this cruise. The big sights done in one swoop as you sail by.

The historic ‘Rocks’ area is where Sydney began, and amidst its cobblestone streets and sandstone steps, you’ll find 19th century warehouses converted to chic restaurants, bars and shops and galleries. As the sun sets Darling Harbour is a particular favourite amongst diners.

Sydney epitomises life in both Australia and its smaller sister, New Zealand. Relaxed, yet stylish, and always enjoying a love affair with the great outdoors, from oceans to rainforest.

Australia’s Brisbane, has a small town vibe, with a bustling music and café scene or the famous Gold Coast. Gateway to the stunning Great Barrier Reef, Cairns also offers an opportunity to ride on its Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, which takes you just metres above its World Heritage listed canopy.

### The Far East experience

The Far East is both exhilarating and tranquil. Modern yet steeped in tradition. The mood can change with the turn of a corner. One minute you’re jostling amidst the crowds of a teeming city, the next you’re experiencing a moment of calm in an ornate Buddhist temple or beautiful orchid garden.

In the Japanese city of Osaka, the frantic buzz of capitalism rubs shoulders with cultural and historic attractions such as the traditional style Osaka-Jo (Osaka Castle), with its cherry trees and teahouse. Buzzing Minami is the place to shop, dine and drink. You can discover the latest gadgets and fashions as well as Osaka’s kuidaore, its ‘eat till you drop’ culture. Whilst in Nagasaki the atmosphere is cosmopolitan and the backdrop an enchanting blend of bridges and temples.

From Xingang in China, where Aurora will dock, you can choose between two starkly contrasting experiences, Beijing or The Great Wall. Beijing isn’t all bicycles and chaos. It also offers impressive architecture, from the stately buildings of Tiananmen Square to the elegant grounds of the Summer Palace and the futuristic Olympic ‘bird’s nest’ Stadium. A different kind of structure all together, The Great Wall, will leave you speechless – its ancient walls snaking seemingly endlessly into the distant landscapes.

You’ll discover Shanghai and Hong Kong swarming with life, but behind the skyscrapers and shopping malls hide temples, traditional street markets and gardens. With two full days in Hong Kong you get to experience this city coming to life after dark. Nha Trang, a seaside resort on the south central coast of Vietnam, offers a slower pace of life. Compare this to Ho Chi Minh City – a fast-paced metropolis where motorbikes crisscross back and forth amidst the bars, restaurants, ancient pagodas and ramshackle shops.

There’s the chance to explore two destinations in Thailand; Bangkok, its thriving capital, and Ko Samui, one of its most beautiful islands. Bangkok’s Grand Palace is both fascinating and beautiful to explore, whilst in Ko Samui the Temple of The Big Buddha, featuring a 39 foot seated Buddha statue is worth a look. In both you’ll find gold adorned Buddhist temples glistening in the sun.

Singapore boasts shops, galleries, museums and colonial landmarks, such as its famous Raffles Hotel. Its countless food stalls and sleek restaurants (which really buzz as the sun goes down) serve up its renowned mix of Malay, Indian and Chinese delights. Also nicknamed the ‘Garden City of the Far East’, there are many to enjoy; the Tiger Balm or the Chinese Gardens with its pretty Teahouse to name but two.

To experience progressive Kuala Lumpur, explore by foot. You’ll pass skyscrapers, bustling Hawker Stalls, historic mosques and its thriving Chinatown. Or make your way to the top of its soaring Petronas Towers, for a fantastic bird’s eye view.

### The mysterious Middle East

Rich in monetary wealth and culture, the Middle East is both mysterious and magnificent, as well as being a wonderful region to cruise around.

You won’t come across many destinations as boastful as Dubai – it’s glitzy, glamorous and in constant development. The city’s newest icon, and the tallest building in the world, the 828 metre high Burj Khalifa, is impressive. For a more traditional experience, you can enjoy the majestic architecture and stunning souks of nearby Sharjah. After dark you can watch the dhow (traditional wooden boat) weaving along the waterways.

Egypt is rife with sights and attractions telling the story of its fascinating ancient civilisations. The Pyramids at Giza are certainly the most obvious, and the most visited. But there’s a reason for this. They are truly spectacular. Their sheer size, scale and age will amaze you. Even the maelstrom of traffic, mosques, palaces and bazaars that is Cairo will not distract you.

Another site of huge archaeological interest is Luxor and the Valley of the Kings, discovered from Safaga. Lying under the pyramid-shaped mountain of Al-Qurn, these ancient tombs (63 in total) were built for the Pharaohs and powerful nobles of Ancient Egypt – a testimony to the cult of the afterlife. Most famous is the tomb of Tutankhamun.

And then there’s Israel, and the pretty city of Haifa. From here you can visit the Holy Land, which includes Jerusalem and Bethlehem, one of the holiest sites in the world for Judaism and Christianity, the Sea of Galilee and Nazareth before Aurora begins the final stretch home across the Mediterranean Sea.