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# *South Pacific eFlyer*

## April 2018

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 14115

# New Plymouth, New Zealand to Varel, Germany and Helsingborg, Sweden

**Journey Dates:**

3 - 24 June 2018

**Price:**

\$5,400 NZD (approx.)  
(includes FFI & host fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Anne Walker

rodandanne@hotmail.com

06-755-3986

**Host Clubs:**

[FF Varel](#)

[FF Helsingborg](#)

If Europe is your overseas trip this year, then how about a Journey to Sweden and Germany?

Located on the shorelines of the North Sea, Varel is often called “city between sea and forest.” This gives a clue about them – clean fresh salt air and stress-reducing wildlife in the forest. The mudflats have been recognised as a UNESCO Natural Heritage site, and we have an extra bonus of visiting the oldest seaside wellness spa.

History abounds with the “Schloßkirche” (Castle Church) with its famous alter, the Emigration Museum at Bremerhaven, the ancient cities of Oldenburg and Bremen, the famous Brewery at Jever or the new Jade-Weser-Port at Wilhelmshaven and other various local sights of interest.

The flat and green coastal region around the city is being used mainly for ranching and farming is increasingly getting involved in the production of alternative power by wind driven generators. The industry of Varel is producing aeronautical parts for Airbus, machinery, china, bricks and cardboard, whilst the inhabitants and tourists enjoy a variety of shops and stores in a pedestrian area of the inner city.

We will then spend three days sightseeing around Copenhagen. Then on to our visit to FF Helsingborg, the only club in Sweden. Situated where it is across the water from Denmark, this area has been the scene of many battles and disputes over the years which can be dated back to the year 1085. Consequently there is some very old architecture consisting of many old stone built churches and a medieval fortress (Karnan) which has stood guard for over 600 years.

Helsingborg is a major regional centre of trade, transport, and business with such businesses as IKEA, Nicorette, Ramsola Brunn, Spectronic and Tailor Store Sweden AB. And since this is Sweden we are visiting, we can expect some spectacular scenery of mountains, fiords, rivers, and coastlines. We will have history, scenery, and friendship during this wonderful Journey. There are opportunities for further travels – please contact the Journey Coordinator for more information.

What a Journey!



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Journey Number 14122

# Gisborne, New Zealand to Kauai & San Diego County, USA

**Journey Dates:**

3-20 August 2018

**Price:**

\$3,000 - \$4,000 NZD  
(includes FFI & host fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Miriam Swarbrick

[gisborne@friendshipforce.org.nz](mailto:gisborne@friendshipforce.org.nz)

06-868-5273

**Host Clubs:**

[FF Kauai](#)

[FF San Diego County](#)

We invite you to get away from winter and join us on the Journey to the western area of the USA.

Our first hosting is with FF Kauai, which is the oldest of the Hawaiian island and lies 160 kms from the better known island of Oahu. It is often called the Garden Island and is the site of the Waimea Canyon State Park. The scenery is stunning. Kauai has been the home of over seventy films including classics like *South Pacific*, *Jurassic Park*, Elvis Presley's *Blue Hawaii*, and the opening scenes of *MASH* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

The Hawaiian Island culture is well-represented here. We may visit the Kaaui Heritage Centre of Hawaiian Culture and Art founded in 1998, which gives a great sense of appreciation and respect for the Hawaiian culture. We will learn about their language, the lei, cordage making, chanting and, of course, the hula. That is if we can dodge the thousands of chickens!

We then have a three-day stopover in Honolulu before moving to our second hosting with FF San Diego County, where the weather is always nice and the natives are very friendly.

There is just so much about San Diego which is set on three islands where there are miles of sandy beaches. We might visit the world famous San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, Sea World Aquarium, the museums at Balboa Park. A visit to USS Midway Aircraft Carrier is a must! We may have the opportunity to move inland and visit the mountains and deserts including Palomar Observatory. Mexico is 30 minutes away.

Perhaps we will do some shopping and wine tasting at historic Old Town and Mission de Alcalá. Sound good? Please contact the coordinator for more information.



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Journey Number 14144

# Auckland North Shore, New Zealand to Central Coast and Mount Barker, Australia

**Journey Dates:**

20- 31 August 2018

**Price:**

\$1,500 - \$2,000 NZD  
(includes FFI & Host Fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Don Wrigglesworth  
(Auckland North Shore)  
094442723  
patdon@gmail.com

**Host Clubs:**

FF Central Coast  
FF Mount Barker

August would be a great time to get away from the cold weather in NZ for a visit to our Aussie mates.

Our first four days will be spent at 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.

We then move west to a very different area at FF Mount Barker. Situated near Lake Alexandrina at the mouth of the longest river in Australia the River Murray at 2,375 kilometers in length, this area thrives on agriculture and mining which have for many years contributed to the diversity of the district. We may visit one of the boutique Adelaide Hills wineries at the Southern Vales, Langhorne Creek, and the Barossa Valley.

We will take in the flora and fauna of magnificent red gum eucalyptus and many varieties of other native and exotic flora and of course kangaroos, koalas, echidnas, emus, galahs, and magpies. The area abounds in small townships with unique museums, art galleries, historical homesteads, market gardens and orchards. Featured high among these are Strathalbyn with its strong Scottish heritage, and Hahndorf & Lobethal with their remarkable German charm.

Great times, great friends and a Journey not to be missed.



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Journey Number 14092

# Albany, Australia to Itanhaem & Belem, Brazil

**Journey Dates:**

24 Aug - 8 Sept, 2018

**Price:**

\$450 USD

(includes FFI and host fees,  
not including international  
airfare)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Elizabeth Sugars

[elizabeth.sugars@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.sugars@hotmail.com)

0438 938 043

**Host Clubs:**

[FF Itanhaem](#)

[FF Belem](#)

**Optional Extension Tour:**

Buenos Aires, Iguazu, Rio de Janeiro, Lima, Lake Titicaca, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Amazon, Quito and Galapagos Islands (\$10,000 AUD)

**Brazil** is a fascinating, vibrant country. When our Friendship Force Club hosted ambassadors from Brazil, we really knew we were alive. We had never had so much music, dancing, and laughter in one week, so we are looking forward eagerly to visiting these two Brazilian clubs. There are several places still available.



Itanhaém Seaside Resort



City of Belem - Brazil



Machu Picchu - Peru



Galapagos Islands

A group of ambassadors has booked a 24-day tour of South America prior to the FF Journey. The tour is with Chimu Adventures and is based on their product Trip Code LATSSAB5 and covers Buenos Aires, Iguazu, Rio de Janeiro, Lima, Lake Titicaca, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Amazon, Quito and Galapagos Islands. The cost is approximately AU \$10000. (For information on this add-on contact Paula at Helloworld, Albany WA 08 9841 5744 or [paula.albanycentral@helloworld.com](mailto:paula.albanycentral@helloworld.com))



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Journey Number 14138

# Newcastle, Australia to Curitiba and Nova Lima, Brazil

**Journey Dates:**

25 Aug - 12 Sept 2018

**Price:**

TBD

(will include FFI & host fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Andrea Deveridge

[aldevo@icloud.com](mailto:aldevo@icloud.com)

**Host Clubs:**

[FF Curitiba](#)

[FF Nova Lima](#)

Looking for an impetus to go on a South American adventure? Ever participated in the samba, tasted barreado, partaken in Brazil's national drink - the caipirinha - or wanted to experience Brazil outside a major city and traffic congestion? Then join Newcastle FF's Journey to Brazil.

Firstly we are welcomed in the innovative urban planned city of Curitiba, with train trips to nearby Morretes - a 17th to 19th century picturesque colonial town known for its artisan crafts, and to Vila Velha - an important archaeological site of beautiful landscapes created over millions of years.



Our Journey then heads to the smaller city of Nova Lima noted for gold and iron ore mining and surrounded by heritage reserves and National Parks.

Curitiba and Nova Lima FF Clubs are working together to maximise our Brazilian experience. Come join Newcastle FF for an exciting Journey to a culture waiting to amaze us.



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Journey Number 14150

# Napier, New Zealand to Bandung, Indonesia and Yamagata, Japan

**Journey Dates:**

September 2018

**Price:**

\$3,000 - \$4,000NZD

(includes Airfare, FFI & Host Fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Ross Stevens

[napier@friendshipforce.org.nz](mailto:napier@friendshipforce.org.nz)

06-8448246

**Host Clubs:**

[FF Bandung](#)

[FF Yamagata](#)

If Asia is on your bucket list for 2018, then we have the Journey to fit your needs. We start with a visit to FF Bandung situated at the eastern end of Java in Indonesia. This area is a popular weekend and holiday destination for residents of Jakarta about 180 kms to the north. The cooler climate, varieties of food, cheaper fashion shops, and many entertainment outlets are included in some of the attractions.

The fertile area of the highland plateau abounds in tea plantations, which was what brought about the early Dutch colonial interest. This area's European history is based round the Dutch architecture in what is referred to as the tropical Art Deco, using both the Dutch and local traditions. This area also includes mountains, lakes, volcanoes, protected forest areas, all of which offer wonderful views. There are a number of museums such as Geological Museum of Bandung, the Indonesia Postal Museum, Sri Baduga Museum, and the Asian-African Conference Museum.

Next, we fly northward to our second hosting at Yamagata in Japan. This prefecture is north of Tokyo, they refer to themselves as "the kingdom of the Hot Springs." There are spas in all cities, towns and villages. They are also "the kingdom of Fruits." Because of the big differences in temperatures of the four season, they grow a variety of cherries, apples, and pears. They are also "the kingdom of the Appetite" with a wide range of fresh seafood and vegetables harvested locally. Try imoni, a popular potato stew. They are also "the kingdom of Culture" with many festivals and events.

Make your application to join us now!



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Journey Number 14177

# Bundaberg, Australia to Central Virginia, Central North Carolina and Baton Rouge, USA

**Journey Dates:**  
October 2018

**Price:**  
\$4,000 AUD (approx.)  
(includes International  
Airfare, FFI & Host Fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**  
Graham Duldig  
[lyngraham.d@bigpond.com](mailto:lyngraham.d@bigpond.com)  
07-4155-3996

**Host Clubs:**  
[FF Central Virginia](#)  
[FF Central North Carolina](#)  
[FF Baton Rouge](#)

Friendship Force Bundaberg invites you to join club members on an autumn Journey to three clubs in the eastern part of the USA.

The three US clubs almost guarantee spectacular autumn colours as we travel from north to south in October this year. Our first hosting is with Friendship Force Central Virginia based in and around Charlottesville. The area is rich in American history and more information about the club and the area's attractions can be [found here](#) and under "Who We Are/Our Clubs" on the FFI website. Charlottesville is located about 160 km south of Washington DC.

The next hosting is in the adjoining state of North Carolina. The Friendship Force Central North Carolina club is based on the three adjacent cities of Greensboro, High Point, and Winston-Salem. Ambassadors will have the opportunity to help tailor the activities programme that the club will prepare for us.

The final Journey is to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This promises to be a fun Journey as Baton Rouge Friendship Force visited Bundaberg in August 2016 and they are very keen for the reciprocal visit from Australia. Please contact the Ambassador Coordinator to find out more about the Journeys and possible pre- and post-tours.



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Journey Number 14299

# Marlborough, New Zealand to Vietnam

**Journey Dates:**

October 2018

**Price:**

\$6,000 - \$7,000 NZD  
(includes FFI, Host & Tour  
Fees)

**Journey Coordinator:**

Robert Cooper

[ffmvietnam@gmail.com](mailto:ffmvietnam@gmail.com)

021 448 523

**Hosts:**

The Vietnam-USA Society

This is a Journey with a guide and four nights of home hosting with local families. All other accommodation will be in hotels.

Cruise Ha Long Bay and stay overnight in the splendour of the hills. Visit beautiful Sapa, and meet the Tay and Day tribes. Climb the highest mountain in Southeast Asia (*cable car and tram available, unless you are real energetic*).

Visit a market or learn about the culture and history of the ancient royal city of Hue. Shop in Hanoi. Listen to Royal music in the Imperial Citadel in Hue. Take a boat tour on the Perfume River. Do these and many other exciting things as you travel through the country.

Learn about the history and architecture of Hoi An, a world cultural heritage site. Visit Ben Thanh market and shop in Ho Chi Minh City. Visit the Cu Chi tunnels.

The trip will commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 and is for 16 days. There will be an optional extra going into Cambodia and cruising on the Mekong river.



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Journey Number 14222

# Nelson, New Zealand to North Moreton and Blue Mountains, Australia

## **Journey Dates:**

18 Oct - 3 Nov 2018

## **Price:**

\$2,500 - \$3,000 NZD  
(includes FFI & Host Fees)

## **Journey Coordinator:**

Audrey Ki

[audrey.kitto@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.kitto@gmail.com)

03-544-6243

## **Host Clubs:**

[FF North Moreton](#)

[FF Blue Mountains](#)

This is an opportunity to visit our cousins across the ditch at not too much cost during spring time. Our first hosting is at FF North Moreton, which is just north of Brisbane. This area has so much to offer – beautiful beaches, scenic mountains, lakes, rainforest walks, boutique wineries, kangaroos on the doorstep – they've got it all.

There will be a chance to walk through the rainforest near the Glasshouse Mountains Marvel and hear the calls of the whip birds. We may cruise up Pumicestone Passage or along the Brisbane River, or enjoy a barbeque at sunset as the kangaroos hop nearby.

Get close to a koala at the fabulous Australia Zoo, the creation of legendary Crocodile Man, Steve Irwin. Walk with us along one of the most beautiful beaches in the world at Bribie Island. A warm sub-tropical climate offers comfortable living throughout the year. Historically, Redcliffe was the first settlements in Queensland and was once a penal colony.

We then move south and spend 3 days in the amazing city of Sydney. Then it's up the mountains we go to our hosting with FF Blue Mountains. This area is now a major gateway to Western New South Wales and is a very popular weekend getaway for Sydney-siders. The city of the Blue Mountains comprises 26 townships which are dotted along the Great Western Highway and has a permanent residential population of around 74,000. The climate is somewhat more temperate than Sydney. We will be there during their spring when the temperature is very agreeable.

The great outdoors is all the go, and they offer a wide range of choices such as the Three Sisters, Jenolan Caves, Katoomba Scenic Railway, Knapsack Viaduct, the Edge Cinema, the Giant Stairway, and much more. On a rainy day, we could visit the Norman Lindsay Gallery & Museum and/or the Toy and Railway Museum.



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# 2018 AUS-NZ Outbound Journeys

## APRIL

- 14061 Brisbane to New Plymouth and Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty and Hamilton and Waikato
- 14064 Tweed Valley to Schwerin and Brussels
- 14058 Adelaide, Australia to Isle of Wight UK and Bavaria Nuernberg-Erlangen, Germany
- 14013 Sydney, Australia to Vietnam and Malang, Indonesia and Liuzhou, China

## MAY

- 14346 Albany, Australia to Adelaide, Australia
- 14347 Murray Bridge, Australia to Tweed Valley, Australia
- 14079 Kempsey, Australia to Tarapoto, Peru and Brasilia and Recife, Brazil
- 14046 North Moreton, Australia to Bergen, Norway and Cleveland County, UK
- 14084 Mount Barker, Australia to Taipei and Taichung, Taiwan
- 14395 Wellington, New Zealand to Marlborough, New Zealand

## JUNE

- 14336 Adelaide, Australia to Sydney, Australia
- 14337 Sydney, Australia to Salisbury and Northern Districts, Australia
- 14314 Brisbane, Australia to Kempsey, Australia
- 14315 Kempsey, Australia to Adelaide, Australia
- 14316 Melbourne, Australia to Gold Coast, Australia
- 14318 Bundaberg, Australia to Tweed Valley, Australia
- 14338 Sunshine Coast, Australia to Melbourne, Australia
- 14339 Central Coast, Australia to Sunshine Coast, Australia
- 14340 Murray Bridge, Australia to Southern Sydney, Australia
- 14341 Southern Sydney, Australia to Brisbane, Australia
- 14312 Mount Gambier, Australia to Bundaberg, Australia
- 14313 Albany, Australia to Mount Gambier, Australia
- 14108 Sunshine Coast, Australia to Quebec and North Bay, Canada
- 14115 New Plymouth, NZ to Varel, Germany and Helsingborg, Sweden

# 2018 AUS-NZ Outbound Journeys, Cont.

## **JULY**

- 14133 Murray Bridge, Australia to Coatepec, Mexico and San Jose, Costa Rica
- 14122 Gisborne, NZ to Kauai, USA and San Diego County, USA
- 14121 Christchurch, NZ to Biarritz, France and Isle of Wight, UK

## **AUGUST**

- 14144 Auckland-North Shore to Mount Barker and Central Coast
- 14309 English Language Learning Journey: Saitama to Kapiti Coast and Wanganui, New Zealand
- 14138 Newcastle, Australia to Curitiba and Nova Lima, Brazil
- 14092 Albany, Australia to Itanhaem and Belem, Brazil
- 14093 Taupo, NZ to Perth and Adelaide, Australia

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 14301 Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, NZ to Cedar Rapids-Iowa City, Kansas and Las Vegas, USA
- 14194 Gold Coast, Australia to Toulouse, France and Lübeck, Germany
- 14145 Perth, Australia to Krems, Austria and Rheinhessen, Germany
- 14162 Hamilton and Waikato, NZ to Albany, Australia

## **OCTOBER**

- 14184 Hobart, Australia to Shelby and Florida Suncoast, USA
- 14299 Marlborough, New Zealand to Vietnam
- 14177 Bundaberg, Australia to Baton Rouge, Central North Carolina and Central Virginia, USA

## **NOVEMBER**

- 14222 Nelson, NZ to North Moreton and Blue Mountains, Australia
- 14216 Whangarei, NZ to Saitama and Ehime, Japan

# 2018 AUS-NZ Inbound Journeys

## **MARCH**

- 14020 National Capital Area to Christchurch and Taupo
- 14031 Manitoba, Canada to Hamilton & Waikato and Tauranga  
Western Bay of Plenty, NZ
- 14036 Leicestershire, UK to Newcastle and Perth, Australia
- 14038 Central Arizona, USA to Thames Coromandel, Wairarapa and Marlborough, NZ
- 14053 Dallas, USA to Gold Coast and Sydney, Australia
- 14065 Newcastle, Australia to Wellington and Wanganui, NZ
- 14413 Wanganui, New Zealand to Manawatu, New Zealand

## **APRIL**

- 14061 Brisbane to New Plymouth and Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty and  
Hamilton and Waikato

## **MAY**

- 14068 Kaohsiung to Murray Bridge and Albany and Perth and Mount Barker
- 14346 Albany, Australia to Adelaide, Australia
- 14347 Murray Bridge, Australia to Tweed Valley, Australia
- 14395 Wellington, New Zealand to Marlborough, New Zealand

## **JUNE**

- 14312 Mount Gambier, Australia to Bundaberg, Australia
- 14313 Albany, Australia to Mount Gambier, Australia
- 14314 Brisbane, Australia to Kempsey, Australia
- 14315 Kempsey, Australia to Adelaide, Australia
- 14316 Melbourne, Australia to Gold Coast, Australia
- 14318 Bundaberg, Australia to Tweed Valley, Australia
- 14336 Adelaide, Australia to Sydney, Australia
- 14337 Sydney, Australia to Salisbury and Northern Districts, Australia
- 14338 Sunshine Coast, Australia to Melbourne, Australia
- 14339 Central Coast, Australia to Sunshine Coast, Australia
- 14340 Murray Bridge, Australia to Southern Sydney, Australia
- 14341 Southern Sydney, Australia to Brisbane, Australia
- 14308 English Language Learning Journey: Nara to Perth and Mount Barker, Australia
- 14094 Greater Taipei, Taiwan to Cairns and Newcastle, Australia
- 14109 Nashik Riverside, India to North Moreton and Southern Sydney, Australia

## **JULY**

- 14261 Golfers to Tweed Valley, Australia

# 2018 AUS-NZ Inbound Journeys, Cont.

## **AUGUST**

- 14137 Pikes Peak Region, USA to Bundaberg and Tamworth, Australia
- 14144 Auckland-North Shore to Mount Barker and Central Coast
- 14093 Taupo, NZ to Perth and Adelaide, Australia
- 14309 English Language Learning Journey: Saitama to Kapiti Coast and Wanganui, New Zealand

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 14148 Piracicaba, Brazil to Sunshine Coast and Kempsey, Australia
- 14179 The Villages, USA to Blue Mountains and Nepean, Brisbane, Australia and Whangarei, New Zealand

## **OCTOBER**

- 14185 Edmonton, Canada to Gisborne and Thames Coromandel, NZ
- 14202 Sibiu, Romania to South Taranaki, NZ
- 14208 Lethbridge, Canada to Tweed Valley and Newcastle, Australia
- 14212 Greater Des Moines and Whidbey Island, USA to Perth, Australia and Auckland-North Shore, NZ

## **NOVEMBER**

- 14217 Szekesfehervar, Hungary to Melbourne, Australia and Christchurch, NZ
- 14219 Northeast Ohio to Horowhenua and Napier and Hamilton and Waikato
- 14222 Nelson, NZ to North Moreton and Blue Mountains, Australia
- 14224 Bangkok, Thailand to Central Coast, Australia
- 14226 Sapporo, Japan to Wellington and Southland, NZ



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# South Pacific eFlyer

**South Pacific eFlyer Submissions are due to the following contacts by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month:**

**Australian contact:**

John Stapleton

[jstapleton@bigpond.com](mailto:jstapleton@bigpond.com)

**New Zealand contact:**

Colin Ridge

[colinjanet123@gmail.com](mailto:colinjanet123@gmail.com)

**FFI Contact:**

Kimberly Fraser

[kimberly@friendshipforce.org](mailto:kimberly@friendshipforce.org)