

AN EPIC AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE: VIBRANT GARDENS & WILD BEAUTY

with AHS Host Amy Golden October 10 - 22, 2026

with Optional Pre- and Post-Trip Extensions:

Tropical Wonders of Cairns: Gardens, Rainforest & Reef Sydney Uncovered: Gardens, Wildlands & Culture

Dear Friends,

I am excited to invite you to join AHS for *An Epic Australian Adventure: Vibrant Gardens and Wild Beauty*, a richly layered journey that brings together some of the most remarkable landscapes, gardens, and cultural sites across three of Australia's most captivating regions: Queensland, South Australia, and Victoria.

This thoughtfully designed itinerary celebrates Australia's deep horticultural legacy and astonishing natural diversity. We'll begin in Brisbane, where riverside botanic gardens and subtropical plant collections set the stage for what's to come. From there, journey to Adelaide, where colonial estates, meticulously tended private gardens, and the legendary Barossa Valley await. The program concludes in Melbourne, where distinguished gardens, innovative horticultural design, and heritage estates reveal the city's deep-rooted connection to both nature and culture.

Throughout, explore exquisite gardens, engage with the passionate gardeners who steward them, and experience the vibrant beauty of Australia's varied plant life, from rainforest giants to Mediterranean blooms. Along the way, enjoy delightful accommodations, delicious regional cuisine, and the camaraderie of fellow AHS members who share your appreciation for gardens, nature, design, and discovery.

I'm delighted that joining you as host is AHS Board member Amy Golden. With a background in conservation and nonprofit leadership, Amy looks forward to sharing this very special adventure with you.

For those who wish to extend their journey, I encourage you to consider the optional pre-tour extension to Cairns, where you'll explore the awe-inspiring Daintree Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef, two of the world's most iconic natural wonders. Or join our post-tour extension to Sydney, where you'll uncover the cultural significance and botanical treasures of this world-renowned harbor city, guided in part by First Nations perspectives.

We hope you'll join us for this extraordinary adventure – one that promises inspiration, connection, and unforgettable beauty at every turn.

Warmest regards,

Suzanne B. Laporte President & CEO





MEET YOUR AHS HOST Amy Golden

Amy Golden is Vice President Development - Strategic Services at the World Wildlife Fund. Amy first volunteered with the American Horticultural Society as a strategic advisor in early 2021, joining the Board of Directors that fall. She currently serves on the Finance Committee, chairs the Development Committee, and was Gala Co-Chair in 2023, the 50th Anniversary of AHS at River Farm. Prior board positions include the International Eye Foundation, ecoAmerica, and Earthshare.

Earlier in her career, Amy was Executive Director of ecoAmerica, which creates social engagement programs to build awareness and action around solutions to environmental challenges. Prior to ecoAmerica, she served The Nature

Conservancy for eight years including positions as Chief Marketing, Membership and Philanthropy Officer and, most recently, Chief Conservation Operating Officer. Before transitioning to a career in conservation, Ms. Golden held leadership roles at AOL, Time Life and American Express.

Amy lives in the City of Falls Church, Virginia with her husband Michael Trauberman. They have a daughter in NYC and a son who attends Indiana University. The family enjoys travel, hiking, skiing and scuba diving. When not exploring new destinations, Amy can be found cultivating the native flora and fauna around her home, including several gardens with natives, ornamentals, vegetables, and most recently, a pond and rain garden. Amy graduated from Harvard Business School and Brown University.

SAMPLE ACCOMMODATIONS Royal on the Park

Overlooking the Brisbane City Botanic Gardens and Brisbane River, Royal on the Park is a tranquil retreat in the heart of the city's downtown. The hotel's premium accommodations combine classic elegance with modern amenities for a comfortable, stylish guest experience. Rooms feature double-glazed floor-to-ceiling windows, which offer natural light and scenic views while protecting against city noise.

Royal on the Park's facilities include an outdoor swimming pool and spa, on-site gymnasium, restaurant and lounge bar, and free high-speed Wifi. The hotel is conveniently located near a variety of dining, shopping, and entertainment options, including the Queen's Wharf entertainment district and South Bank Parklands, which are both within walking distance.







WHEN YOU TRAVEL WITH THE AHS, YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Designed for garden enthusiasts who love to explore horticultural wonders around the world, AHS Travel offers exceptional programs that include many exclusive experiences and unique insights. Your participation in an AHS Travel program supports the AHS' nonprofit work to increase knowledge among gardeners, inspire passion for plants and the natural world, and encourage responsible stewardship of the earth.



This customized trip is part of the AHS Adventures travel program collection. For more information, visit ahsgardening.org/travel

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

DAY 1 | SAT | OCT. 10 | DEPART US Depart from your home city. Destination: Brisbane, Australia!

DAY 2 | SUN | OCT. 11 | EN ROUTE Cross the International Date Line.

DAY 3 | MON | OCT. 12 | BRISBANE

Upon arrival at Brisbane International Airport and after completing immigration and customs formalities, you will be greeted by your driver and taken directly to your hotel. Preregistered rooms will be available for immediate check-in. Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland, is known for its relaxed atmosphere and subtropical climate, offering warmth and humidity year-round. After a light lunch at your hotel, enjoy a guided afternoon walk through the Brisbane City Botanic Gardens. Highlights include the serene bamboo grove, mature palms, scenic riverside paths, tranquil lakes, charming fountains, ornamental ponds, and a beautiful avenue of weeping figs. Special features include Hill's Fern Island, MacMahon's Bush House, Caulfield & Trapnell's Rainforest Garden, and Oakman's Rockery, Cascade, and Lagoon. Enjoy a festive welcome dinner this evening. *Overnight at Royal on the Park. (LD)*

DAY 4 | TUE | OCT. 13 | BRISBANE

Today's full-day tour from Brisbane explores scenic Tamborine Mountain, a lush plateau known for its subtropical climate and vibrant flora. Visit The Haven, a private garden featuring Japanese maples, camellias, rhododendrons, fuchsias, and seasonal blooms. Continue to Tamborine Mountain Botanic Garden to enjoy its perennial garden, Japanese garden, hydrangea garden, wisteria pergolas, rose garden, camellia garden, and tropical rainforest walk. After lunch at leisure in charming Mount Tamborine village, experience the Tamborine Rainforest Skywalk, a thrilling elevated pathway through rainforest canopies above Cedar Creek. Following your rainforest adventure, return to Brisbane with dinner at leisure. *Overnight at Royal on the Park.* (B)

DAY 5 | WED | OCT. 14 | BRISBANE

This morning, visit Queensland's premier subtropical gardens—the beautiful Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha. This living museum showcases stunning native and exotic plants, including a sensory garden, arid garden, Japanese garden, bonsai house, lagoon and bamboo grove. Explore the largest collection of Australian native rainforest trees in the world and the Tropical Display Dome, where a gently winding pathway circles upward around a central pond filled with water lilies and native fish, passing lush palms, heliconias, caladiums, and epiphytes. Early this afternoon, visit a lovely private garden. Dinner is at leisure in Brisbane. *Overnight at Royal on the Park. (B)*

DAY 6 | THU | OCT. 15 | ADELAIDE

This morning, fly from Brisbane to Adelaide, capital city of the state of South Australia. Adelaide is bursting with culture, flavors, events and entertainment, and beautiful gardens. The city center itself is surrounded by parklands and is the gateway to some of Australia's best wine country. This afternoon, your guide will take you on a walking tour of the Adelaide Botanic Garden featuring beautifully landscaped gardens, majestic avenues, and stunning architecture. Opened in 1857, the historic garden includes some of Australia's finest plant collections. Dinner is at leisure this evening. *Overnight at Crowne Plaza Adelaide.* (B)

DAY 7 | FRI | OCT. 16 | ADELAIDE

Today your travels take you to the northern end of the Barossa Valley to Anlaby Station, South Australia's oldest Merino sheep breeding property. Established in 1839, this once-grand pastoral estate employed 14 gardeners. Anlaby continues today as a working property breeding stud sheep and producing pure Merino wool. Sheep are at the center of everything at Anlaby; the current flock is directly descended from those that Frederick Dutton walked overland from New South Wales. The historically listed garden is a work in progress. Stroll through the shade house, glasshouse, walled garden, rose garden, and terraced lawns on your private tour. Then, savor lunch surrounded by the timeless beauty of this storied estate. Travel back to Adelaide with the rest of the day at leisure. *Overnight at Crowne Plaza Adelaide*. (BL)

DAY 8 | SAT | OCT. 17 | ADELAIDE

A special day is in store as you will be meeting three passionate gardeners and their delightful gardens. The morning begins at Al Ru Farm at One Tree Hill. Irrepressible Ruth Irving is a clever and passionate gardener. Her garden is an exuberance of poppies, iris, perennials and roses. Walk through her wisteria arbor into a restrained formal white garden. Ashgrove Iris Garden is next, a treat for those who love the magical combination of roses and iris. Meet Diane Michalk, the Gardening Australia Gardener of the Year for 2013, and explore her Ashgrove Iris Garden. Enjoy lunch in this beautiful setting. Then discover a new garden, created by a passionate gardener with incredible attention to detail. Travel back to Adelaide with an evening at leisure. *Overnight at Crowne Plaza Adelaide. (BL)*

DAY 9 | SUN | OCT. 18 | ADELAIDE

You'll start the day with a short drive from Adelaide into the beautiful Adelaide Hills. No photos could ever fully capture the wonder and whimsy of Irene Pearce's "Tickle Tank." Every inch is filled with color and form, mosaics and sculptures, with careful planting to create a series of vignettes. You'll have some free time for lunch in Hahndorf Village, Australia's oldest surviving German settlement, followed by a visit to the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden, dedicated to the cultivation and display of the world's cool-climate plants. Collections include the Dwarf Conifer Lawn, Fern Gully, Heritage Rose Garden, Rhododendron Gully, South American Gully, and Southeast Asian Gully, to name a few. Return to Adelaide for an evening at leisure. *Overnight at Crowne Plaza Adelaide.* (B)



DAY 10 | MON | OCT. 19 | MELBOURNE

This morning, depart Adelaide and fly to Melbourne. Visit the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria - Melbourne for a guided tour through this green oasis in the heart of the city. More than 8,500 plant species from around the world are presented in a kaleidoscope of color and textures with sweeping lawns, tranquil lakes, and majestic trees. Dinner is independent this evening. *Overnight at Crowne Plaza Melbourne.* (B)

DAY 11 | TUE | OCT. 20 | MELBOURNE

This morning, travel up the Yarra Valley to Antique Perennials at Kinglake Botanical Garden. The garden here showcases a huge range of rare and unusual flowering perennials and grasses. Lunch is next at Coombe Estate, the former home of world-famous opera singer Dame Nellie Melba. The garden, established more than 100 years ago by William Guilfoyle, the architect of the Victorian Royal Botanic Gardens, features

an amazing 1,968-foot cypress hedge and breathtaking 180-year-old English oak majestically spanning the breadth of the courtyard. Lunch is a treat in this elegant setting. In the afternoon, visit Alowyn Gardens, where you have the opportunity to stroll through a series of cleverly designed garden spaces, such as the Parterre Garden, Zen & Display Gardens, French Provincial Garden, and Perennial Border Garden. *Overnight at Crowne Plaza Melbourne. (BL)*



DAY 12 | WED | OCT. 21 | MELBOURNE

This morning, discover Eurambeen Historic Homestead and Gardens, an iconic landmark of Victoria's rural heritage, built in 1850 with a three-acre garden which was designed by Edna Walling when the home was extended in 1927. Originally named Mt. Cole Station, the property was taken up by the Campbell brothers who built a wooden homestead on the site in 1840. The property has now been restored. Then enjoy a memorable visit to the gracious Ceres Homestead, hosted by Jane Charles. Built in 1864 by Thomas Bath, the first licensee on the Ballarat goldfields, the homestead was famously enhanced for the 1867 visit of Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh. Today, Jane has lovingly restored the estate to its former splendor, including the elegant home, historic outbuildings, and surrounding gardens. She will personally guide you through the property before hosting a celebratory long table luncheon in the garden, a warm and fitting finale to the program. Return to your hotel for the remainder of the evening at leisure. Overnight at Crowne Plaza Melbourne. (BL)

DAY 13 | THU | OCT. 22 | DEPARTURE (OR BEGIN EXTENSION)

At the appropriate time, you will be taken to Melbourne International Airport for your departing flight. Those returning home will check in for their international flight, which, due to the crossing of the International Date Line, may arrive in the U.S. on October 22. If you are joining the Sydney Post Tour, you will transfer to your domestic flight to Sydney to continue your journey. (B)



Optional Pre-Trip Extension

TROPICAL WONDERS OF CAIRNS: GARDENS, RAINFOREST & REEF

October 5 - 12, 2026

Australia's remote Far North Queensland is home to amazing natural wonders, from the world's largest coral reef ecosystem to its oldest tropical rainforest.

On this pre-trip extension, venture out to the Great Barrier Reef, where you'll have the opportunity to view an abundance of colorful marine life while swimming, snorkeling, or riding in a semi-submersible boat.

Observe the cycads, ferns, primitive flowering plants, and other unique flora of the Daintree National Park's ancient rainforests, keeping an eye out for wildlife as you explore on foot and by boat.

Other highlights include a ride aboard the historic Kuranda Scenic Railway and a SkyRail Rainforest Cable Car journey.

Visits to Flecker Botanic Gardens—one of the best exhibitions of tropical flora in Australia—and to the private garden of a local landscape designer round out the experience.













Optional Post-Trip Extension

SYDNEY UNCOVERED: GARDENS, WILDLANDS & CULTURE

October 22 - 27, 2026

Delve into the history, culture, and horticultural heritage of one of Australia's most iconic cities!

Different facets of Sydney's past, present, and future are revealed with every step. As you stroll through Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens, learn from your First Nations guide about the Indigenous Gadigal people, who were among the area's first inhabitants. Also take a walking tour of The Rocks neighborhood, site of the first permanent European colonial settlement on the continent and today a thriving cultural hub.

A sightseeing cruise in Sydney Harbour and a behind-the-scenes tour of the famed Sydney Opera House offer unique perspectives on these famed landmarks. Enjoy an exclusive private garden tour, and learn about Sydney's innovative Barangaroo Reserve, which has set new benchmarks for environmental remediation and sustainable reuse of materials and water.

West of Sydney, discover the astonishing floral diversity and unusual geological features of Blue Mountains National Park, known in particular for its many *Eucalyptus* species.



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AHS TRAVEL PROGRAM INFORMATION

AN EPIC AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE: VIBRANT GARDENS & WILD BEAUTY October 10 - 22, 2026

This custom AHS Travel program has been created uniquely for AHS travelers and is offered in collaboration with Holbrook Travel.

AHS TRAVEL ACTIVITY LEVEL DESCRIPTION: AHS Travel programs are designed to offer immersive experiences and often involve long days filled with exploration and extensive walking. It is recommended that participants be in good physical condition and prepared to walk a minimum of 3 miles per day or 45 minutes on uneven surfaces. You will need to be able to get on and off a coach unassisted several times a day.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. One travel insurance provider to consider is USI Affinity Travel Insurance Services. For more information on the plan for AHS travelers, visit www.ahsgardening.org/travel. Information is also available at this link regarding optional flight and travel arrangement services.

MAIN PROGRAM PRICING:

Program price: \$9,895 Single supplement: \$1,280

Program pricing is per person, based on double occupancy and a minimum of 14 paying participants. Program price includes: 10 nights' accommodations; 16 meals (10 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 1 dinner); non-alcoholic beverages with meals; 2 glasses of wine with welcome dinner and farewell luncheon; sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees and permits; full-time guide for duration of the program; private vehicle transportation and driver; all tips and gratuities; departure tax; and carbon offset. Arrival and departure transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost when you travel on the program dates.

Price does not include: international airfare from your departure city; passport/visa fees; travel or trip cancellation insurance; personal expenses such as additional beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; communications charges; or other items of a personal nature. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION PRICING:

Cairns pre-trip extension: \$3,695 Single supplement: \$650

Extension pricing is per person, based on double occupancy and a minimum of 12 paying participants. Pre-trip extension price includes: Internal flight (Cairns to Brisbane); 5 nights' accommodations; 8 meals (5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner); non-alcoholic beverages with meals; 2 glasses of wine with welcome dinner; sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees and permits; full-time guide; private vehicle transportation and driver; all tips and gratuities; and carbon offset.

Sydney post-trip extension: \$4,495

Single supplement: \$850

Extension pricing is per person, based on double occupancy and a minimum of 12 paying participants. Post-trip extension

price includes: Internal flight (Melbourne to Sydney); 5 nights' accommodations; 7 meals (5 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner); non-alcoholic beverages with meals; 2 glasses of wine with welcome dinner; sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees and permits; full-time guide; private vehicle transportation and driver; all tips and gratuities; and carbon offset.

FLIGHTS: International airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for their own air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed by Holbrook Travel. We recommend against purchasing non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes; AHS and Holbrook Travel shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT: A \$2,000 per person deposit and completed enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the main program. An additional \$500 per person deposit is required for each of the optional extensions. All final non-refundable payments are due in full April 8, 2026.

CANCELLATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS: If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to Holbrook Travel. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: Cancel on or before March 4, 2026: \$500 cancellation fee for main program (plus \$300 cancellation fee per extension, as applicable); remaining balance is refunded. Cancel from March 5 to April 7, 2026: full deposit of \$2,000 (plus \$500 per extension, as applicable) is forfeited. Cancel April 8, 2026 or later: no refund. Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. If due to unforeseen circumstances AHS or Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Upon receipt of registration, Holbrook Travel will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to Holbrook Travel before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

AHS PROGRAM CONTENT: The AHS and its travel partners reserve the right to take photographs, videos, and audio ("Program Content") during the travel program for editorial, promotional, and commercial use by the AHS or authorized third parties. By making a reservation on an AHS Travel program, the participant agrees to allow his/her likeness to be used by AHS or AHS-authorized third parties without compensation to the participant. AHS reserves the right to crop, alter, or combine the Program Content with other images, text, or media at its sole discretion and to use the Program Content in any medium or format, including but not limited to print, digital, or online media. This authorization grants AHS and/ or authorized third parties the right to use the photographs, videos, and audio worldwide and in perpetuity, without further consent or compensation. Participants who prefer that their voice and/or image not be used must notify AHS in writing prior to the beginning of the program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT AHS TRAVEL PROGRAMS: Please contact travel@ahsgardening.org or (703) 768-8801. Information is also available at www.ahsgardening.org/travel.



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AHS TRAVEL REGISTRATION FORM

	Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ (\$2,000 per person) for person/MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Tra 3540 NW 13th Street, Gainesville, FL 32609. This completed form and deposit must completed registration form as an attachment to schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or ha schmidt@holbrooktravel.com; to make payments via phone, please ask for Hannah Street.	avel, Inc. and mail comp be received in order to e Innah@holbrooktravel.co	leted enrollment form and ensure your registration. It om. For tour questions, pla	d deposit check to: Holbrook Trav is suggested that you email you ease contact Sandy Schmidt at	∕el,
	Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encourary Services offers a plan designed specifically for AHS travelers. Depending on the plan yexpenses, emergency evacuation/repatriation, lost or damaged baggage, and other etour protection plan for AHS travelers, visit https://my.travelinsure.com/ahs or call 1-8	you purchase, travel insu expenses and/or losses in 855-874-0156.	Irance can cover trip cance	llation, trip interruption, medical	1
TRAVELER 1	Full Passport Name				
	-	DOB Gender			
	Passport Number* Passport				
	Address (Billing)				
	StateZIP E-mail				
		Medications			
	Dietary Needs/Restrictions*If currently renewing passport, please advise Holbrook Travel when obtained	Other Medical Nee	ds	Please continue on separate sheet if	needed
TRAVELER 2	Full Passport Name				
	Preferred Name (for name tag)	DOB		Gender	
	Passport Number* Passport Issuing Country* Passport Exp. Date*				
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ADDITIONAL DETAILS & PAYMENT	Emergency Contact (not traveling)))	
	☐ I will share a room with				
	☐ I request a single room at extra cost (limited availability; \$1,280 main program / \$650 pre-trip extension / \$850 post-trip extension).				
	☐ I/we would like to enroll in the optional pre-trip extension, "Tropical Wonders of Cairns: Gardens, Rainforest & Reef," (Oct. 5–12, 2026) and have enclosed an additional \$500 per person deposit.	I/we would like to enroll in the optional post-trip extension, "Sydney Uncovered: Gardens, Wildlands & Culture," (Oct. 22–27, 2026) and have enclosed an additional \$500 per person deposit.			
	Method of Payment	Discover		☐ VISA	
Ž O I	Account #	Security (Code	Exp. Date	
Y D D I	Name of Cardholder				
4	Signature				
	Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance Final payment is due April 8, 2026 (check or credit card).	e of the program price r	must be paid to Holbrool	Travel.	
	HEALTH				

At AHS Travel, ensuring the health and safety of our guests is our top priority. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Holbrook Travel, local staff, and host country laws. All participants should be in good health and able to keep up with an active group of travelers without assistance from tour staff

By forwarding the deposit for passage, the traveler certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other travelers.

Travel Insurance: We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance. We encourage you to carefully review the various travel insurance options available and select a policy that best suits your needs. Be sure to consider factors such as coverage limits including COVID-19 coverage, medical expenses, trip cancellation/interruption coverage, baggage loss or delay, and other travel-related contingencies.