

Media Release
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Need a Long Weekend? Just Add Two Days and Five Thousand Miles

It's a long stretch between public holidays and what better way to break the winter blues, than to create your own weekend away.

Flight Centre, New Zealand's largest travel agency, has asked its expert travel consultants their top picks for an international long weekend - you can go further than you might think!

Uluru – Australia's Natural Treasure

Just over the Tasman and a world away is Australia's Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and it's the perfect long weekend with a difference. Leaving on a Friday morning and coming back the Monday is enough time to take in the unique Red Centre.

Take an Aboriginal guided tour around Uluru or Kata Tjuta, ride a camel into the sunset, trek to the Valley of the Winds, try your hand at a dot painting workshop or visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre.

Flights from Sydney to Ayers Rock are just over three hours – the perfect opportunity to explore two places in one weekend.

Darwin

Head away for a long weekend and discover the top of Australia. The new Air New Zealand and Pacific Blue alliance means there are plenty of ways to get to Darwin, leaving ample time for sightseeing.

Be sure to take in Crocosaurus Cove in the heart of Darwin's CBD. Here you'll find one of the largest saltwater crocodile's in the world on display, along with more than 50 Northern Australian Reptiles and a turtle sanctuary. Or jump on a five-star tour and head out to Litchfield National Park to explore Darwin's native bush and incredible waterfalls.

Kangaroo Island

At seven times the size of Singapore, Kangaroo Island has the perfect blend of wildlife, native bushlands and pristine beaches.

Getting to Kangaroo Island from Adelaide is easy – choose the ferry or fly there in just 30 minutes. There are a huge range of tours available on the island, which means you can sit back and enjoy as you take in the island.

For the adventurous, you could also bike or hike the island, although at 155 kilometres long, it's not for the faint hearted!

Air New Zealand fly direct from Auckland to Adelaide late in the week which means you can choose to head straight to Kangaroo Island, or stop and explore Adelaide for the night first.

Tonga

With a flying time three hours, Tonga is a great option for a long weekend escape with a difference. There are 170 islands of Tonga with 37 inhabited islands to choose from, divided into the Tongatapu Group in the south, including the capital Nuku'alofa, and the Vava'u Group in the north.

Explore Eua's national park either on foot or by horseback – it's just a short flight from Tongatapu. Or try scuba diving from Ha'apai, go game fishing or shop at the Nuku'alofa markets. Really unwind and relax in Tonga's slow-paced atmosphere.

Borneo

Heading a little further afield for an adventure weekend in Malaysian Borneo is a realistic long weekend option. Perfect when your mates ask what you're doing this weekend – just heading to Borneo!

Leaving Auckland late on Friday night means you can arrive in Kota Kinabalu late on Saturday morning leaving plenty of time to check out the orang-utans, take a dive trip or even climb the highest peak in south-east Asia – Mount Kinabalu.

Depart again on Monday night will have you back in New Zealand on Tuesday afternoon – you could even save half a day's leave and head into work that afternoon if you were game!

Fiji

For a dinner date with a difference, why not have dinner in Denarau. Nip over Friday night and come back Sunday - you don't need to worry about a thing as packages can be tailor-made to include airfares, accommodation with breakfast, airport transfers and even the romantic dinner while you're there.

At just over three hours flying time and on the same time zone as New Zealand, Fiji makes the perfect weekend escape.

- ENDS -

Flight Centre has dinner in Denarau holidays including two nights five-star accommodation with full breakfast daily, a two-course dinner at Moo Moo the Wine Bar + Grill with a glass of bubbles on arrival and airport transfers from \$749 ex Auckland per person, twin share.*

For further details and bookings, contact Flight Centre on 0800 427 555 or visit www.flightcentre.co.nz

**Price subject to availability and conditions apply. Valid for sales until 16 September 2011. Travel from 31 October – 14 December 2011 and 10 – 31 January 2012.*

For more information or images to accompany the above, contact:

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About Flight Centre

Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd is New Zealand's largest travel agency, with approximately 900 staff in more than 200 retail stores and businesses nationwide.

Flight Centre consultants are the travel experts and are selected for their vast product knowledge and their passion for travel. Flight Centre's global network allows consultants access to the widest travel product offering in the New Zealand, at the best value.

Brands in the New Zealand market operated by Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd include;

Flight Centre
Round the World
Premium Travel
FCm Travel Solutions
Corporate Traveller
Student Flights
Infinity Holidays
Escape Holidays

CiEvents
Cruiseabout

The company has won the JRA Best Workplaces, large workplace category award for eight consecutive years. In addition and in recognition of Flight Centre's continued achievements in the JRA Best Workplaces Survey over the past eight years, Flight Centre is also a Five-Year League Award recipient.

Flight Centre Limited globally has almost 13,000 staff in 11 countries including Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Hong Kong, India and China.