

Dear Australian Farmer,

2021 FARMING TOUR OF NORTHERN EUROPE, THE BALTIC STATES & SCANDINAVIA

I would like to take this opportunity of inviting you to join my wife Liz and myself, on what I am sure you will find to be a rather adventurous and interesting tour of three northern European countries, the three Baltic States as well as three Scandinavian countries all offering an overabundance of historical and cultural attractions.

The 31-day tour departs on Thursday 29th July with Singapore Airlines to Copenhagen arriving back in Australia on Saturday 28th August 2021 covering in northern Europe, Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland, the Baltic countries of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and in Scandinavia, Finland, Sweden and Denmark. As with all Australian Farmers Tours we will certainly get off the well beaten tourist track visiting livestock enterprises, cereal and intensive cropping properties as well as a number of technical visits. **At the conclusion of the tour, members if they wish may depart later from Copenhagen or from any city in Europe or England serviced by Singapore Airlines for no additional cost.**

The actual day-by-day itinerary shown on the following pages will be guided by European based **Jeremy Kolbe**, well known to hundreds of Australian farmers as over many years he has managed and guided tours for AFT to Central, Eastern and Northern Europe, Germany, France and Great Britain. The tour includes many on-farm and technical visits so it may well **qualify as a tax deductible expense**. I will maintain a detailed daily diary for you to submit with your income tax return. However, it is **not all work and no play** as the tour includes leisure and sightseeing to provide a well rounded itinerary.

As the tour is not until 2021 the indicative cost of this 31-day farming tour flying economy class with Singapore Airlines from either Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth is **\$14,800** based on sharing a twin room with private facilities in mostly 3 to 4 star hotels, all breakfasts, 12 lunches and 17 dinners with spectacular sightseeing, on-farm and technical visits. The indicative cost also includes portage, all tipping, carrier charges, airport taxes and fees. The single room supplement is \$2,680.

I have recently retired after a lifetime of farming in western and central Victoria and over 20 years as executive officer of the Rural Financial Counselling Service. I was a tour member of the 2008 Australian Farmers 21-Day China & Inner Mongolia Tour. In 2014 I undertook an 18-Day Australian Farmers Japan Farming Tour and in 2016 I led the highly successful 36 Day Australian Farmers Great Britain & Ireland Farming Tour. In 2017 I led a 29-Day Australian Farmers tour of Central Europe and in 2019 a China & Inner Mongolia Farming Tour. In 2020 I'll be leading the AFT inaugural Farming Tour of Russia.

Should you wish to book on this most adventurous and comprehensive farming tour then the Booking Form and a tour deposit of \$500 per person is required by cheque or direct bank credit to the Australian Farmers Travel trust account BSB 063144 number 10307074. This tour is limited in numbers and therefore is expected to fill very quickly.

I hope you will be able to accept this invitation to join this tour and Liz and I certainly look forward to the pleasure of your company. However, should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me or phone Andrew Curry anytime on (07) 5447 0559.

Yours sincerely

Ted Gretgrix

Tour Leader

www.austfarmers.com.au

Address : 344 Old Ceylon Rd Ridgewood Qld 4563

Phone: (07) 5447 0559 Postal Address: P O Box 346 Cooroy Qld 4563 E-mail : andrewcurry@bigpond.com

2021 Farming Tour of Northern Europe, the Baltic States & Scandinavia

Thursday 29 July 2021

Day 1 Depart Australia

Tasmanian passengers travel to Melbourne to join Victorian passengers and depart Tullamarine Airport at 3.40 pm on Singapore Airlines flight SQ228 arriving Singapore at 9.30 pm. Western Australian passengers depart Perth at 2.05 pm on flight SQ226 that arrives Singapore at 7.30 pm. Queensland passengers depart from Brisbane at 2.30 pm on flight SQ236 arriving Singapore at 8.50 pm and NSW passengers depart from Sydney at 3.10 pm on flight SQ222 arriving Singapore at 9.30 pm while South Australian passengers depart from Adelaide on flight SQ278 at 9.15 am arriving Singapore at 3.10 pm. On arrival at Singapore's Changi Airport passengers will have time to stretch their legs and check out the many duty free shops before boarding the direct Singapore Airlines flight SQ528 departing at 11.50 pm to Copenhagen, Denmark's capital.

Friday 30 July

Day 2 Arrive Copenhagen (D)

Singapore Airlines flight SQ352 arrives Copenhagen at 6.25 am and after clearing Immigration & Customs formalities you will be met by **Jeremy Kolbe** and driven by coach to your centrally situated Copenhagen hotel for immediate occupancy. The remainder of the day at leisure to rest up from the long flights. Tonight enjoy your get together welcome dinner.

Saturday 31 July

Day 3 Copenhagen (B)

Morning sightseeing tour of Denmark's capital features the Little Mermaid followed by the Queen's Palace of Christiansborg, the Rosenborg Palace and the Amalienborg Palace. Afternoon at leisure.

Sunday 1 August

Day 4 Copenhagen - Berlin (BLD)

Drive to Gedser for the two hour ferry crossing to Rostock then onward to Berlin our home for the next 3 nights.

Monday 2 August

Day 5 Berlin (B)

No longer divided but every bit as fascinating, Berlin was once the city of contrasts with the wall separating two different worlds. Now the city has developed into a harmonious blend of new and old preserving its historical buildings and impressive boulevards as well as creating brand new buildings in the most daring architectural styles. See all of this on this

morning's city sightseeing with a local guide. This afternoon travel to Potsdam the capital of Brandenburg State that has a UNESCO World Heritage status. Frederick the Great built many of the marvelous palaces and Potsdam's fairy-tale landscapes look like a blessing from nature, but are the result of hundreds of years of human endeavor. The jewel in the crown is the celebrated Palace of Sanssouci, however, when you enter Cecilienhof Palace find out how the cruel realities of 20th century history shattered the world in 1945 where Truman, Stalin and Churchill concluded the Potsdam Agreement, sealing the fate of Germany and Europe and ushering in the Cold War. When you travel between West Berlin and East Germany over the Glienicke Bridge (spy swap) find out where the KGB Prison was in the so-called Forbidden Town and see the former Stasi Prison.

Tuesday 3 August

Day 6 Berlin (BL)

Germany is a strong agricultural country where more than 80% of the land is put to agricultural or forestry use. It is a major exporter in the agricultural and food industries with corresponding exports valued at more than 50 billion euros. The most important commodities include meat and meat products and with the production of meat, all those involved from research institutes, breeding, fattening and marketing work together closely. Today will be spent visiting farms in the north-east of Germany. Whereas red-spotted highland cattle and Brown Mountain cattle dominate in South Germany, Holstein Black Pied Lowland and the Red-And-White Holstein cattle are found here in the North. Included today will be a visit to a 1000ha farm growing winter rye, barley, oats and wheat. Crops are sold to the trade as cattle fodder and on this property machinery used includes John Deere, Kuhn, Claas and Dieci. We will also meet up with members of the Berlin-Brandenburg Sheep Breeders Association and visit one of their large sheep properties featuring breeds such as Texel or German Suffolk

Wednesday 4 August

Day 7 Berlin - Prague (BLD)

Today we head for Bohemia and the former Soviet bloc country of the Czech Republic to the capital, Prague one of Europe's most popular tourist destinations with its traditional pubs and eateries where you can still feast on pork and dumplings washed down with a cold beer.

Thursday 5 August

Day 8 Prague (B)

Morning walking sightseeing tour featuring the thousand year old Hradcany Castle, former residence of Bohemian Kings, St Vitus Cathedral, the Old Town and Jewish ghetto and of course the Astronomical Clock, once the envy of all Europe. After lunch we'll visit a co-operative farm specializing in grain and beef production.

Friday 6 August

Day 9 Prague - Krakow (BLD)

This morning we'll first visit a large-scale dairy and arable farm before crossing into Poland travelling through the industrial heartland of Silesia to Krakow, one of the most beautiful mediaeval cities in northern Europe and where Pope John Paul II served as archbishop

Saturday 7 August

Day 10 Krakow (B)

This morning we'll see the remains of the former Auschwitz Concentration Camp as well as the Martyrdom Museum and St. Maximilian Kolbe's Cell. Afternoon at leisure to wander around the Old Town a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sunday 8 August

Day 11 Krakow - Warsaw (BLD)

En-route to Poland's capital we'll visit a typical privately owned small-scale arable and livestock farm. Warsaw was largely destroyed during WWII but over the years has painstakingly been restored.

Monday 9 August

Day 12 Warsaw (B)

Warsaw is Poland's most dynamic cosmopolitan city with a tormented past. On this morning's sightseeing tour you'll see the tragic remnants of the Jewish ghetto, the Old Quarter with its market square and the 14th-century Cathedral of St John, a masterpiece of postwar reconstruction. Also included is the Palace of Culture and the Chopin Memorial in Lazienki Park. This afternoon we'll visit a craft brewery and a fruit and vegetable farm.

Tuesday 10 August

Day 13 Warsaw - Vilnius (BLD)

During the next 8 days we'll cover the three small Baltic Countries which not so long ago regained their independence. Each country has its own language and distinct culture. Today's scenic drive is through Mazuria, a region of lakes and vast forests to Lithuania, the largest and

DEPARTS Thursday 29th July 2021

RETURNS Saturday 28th August

TAXATION REPORT: Your Tour Leader Ted Gretgrix will maintain a detailed daily diary for taxation deduction purposes, but individual application must be made to the Australian Taxation Department.

southernmost of the three arriving late afternoon in the capital, Vilnius, once the splendid centre of the mighty Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Enroute we'll either visit the JSC Baltic Woolen Mill or a horticultural farm growing a variety of salad vegetables.

Wednesday 11 August

Day 14 Vilnius (BL)

Morning walking sightseeing tour followed by an afternoon of farm visits. The morning walk is from Kutuzov Square through narrow winding lanes to the Old University, founded by Jesuits in 1569. You'll see the Gates of Dawn and the former Soviet KGB headquarters, a reminder of grim and relatively recent events. After lunch at a country restaurant we'll first visit a 200 head goat farm producing milk and cheese followed by a visit to a sheep and 100 head dairy farm specializing in milk and meat production.

Thursday 12 August

Day 15 Vilnius - Kaunas (BLD)

Today's scenic drive is through alternating dark forests, swamps, fertile black earth fields and lush pastures to Kaunas for a visit to Lytagra, an importer for Case New Holland. This afternoon visit various farms and processing facilities for bio-fuel production

Friday 13 August

Day 16 Kaunas - Riga (BD)

This morning visit several local farms representing Lithuanian agriculture. Arrive Riga, Latvia's capital by mid-afternoon and enjoy a walking tour through the historic central district.

Saturday 14 August

Day 17 Riga (BD)

rive to Jelgava where you'll visit two farms. One is significant in size and shows the direction of the agriculture business in Eastern Europe and in contrast visit a mid-size farming operation followed by a visit to a rape seed oil crushing plant.

Sunday 15 August

Day 18 Riga - Tartu (BD)

Travel northeast through central Latvia to Estonia to the city of Tartu.

Monday 16 August

Day 19 Tartu - Tallinn (BD)

This morning will be spent at the University of Life Sciences, Tartu's agricultural college. Tour the campus first seeing the animal clinic and then the cattle ranch and

then receive a short briefing on current trends in Estonia Agriculture. Travel through central Estonia to Tallinn, capital of the smallest of the Baltic Countries. This afternoon's walking sightseeing tour includes the Old Town, 15th century Luhike Jalg Gate and the onion-domed Alexander Nevsky Cathedral.

Tuesday 17 August

Day 20 Tallinn - Helsinki (BD)

Morning visit a wind turbine farm then a mixed farming operation. This afternoon we'll board the ferry for the short crossing to Helsinki, Finland's capital.

Wednesday 18 August

Day 21 Helsinki (BL)

We'll travel out to the countryside for a complete day of agricultural visits featuring organic vegetable and grain production and beef cattle and grain.

Thursday 19 August

Day 22 Helsinki - Stockholm (B)

This morning's orientation drive of Finland's capital features the City Hall and Parliament House, the Presidential Palace and the great Lutheran Cathedral. This afternoon at leisure until you board the 5 pm overnight ferry to Stockholm, Sweden's capital arriving at 9.30 am.

Friday 20 August

Day 23 arrive Stockholm (BD)

After docking at 9.30 am enjoy a morning city sightseeing tour followed by a visit to Uppsala, the home of Sweden's most famous gothic cathedral and the country's oldest university. This afternoon visit a beef property arranged in cooperation with one of the Swedish breed societies. Dinner tonight is on Djurgarden island.

Saturday 21 August

Day 24 Stockholm - Jonkoping (BL)

Travel through some of Sweden's fertile farmlands to Jonkoping on the shores of Lake Vattern. En-route visit a cereal farm and have lunch at an apple processing establishment.

Sunday 22 August

Day 25 Jonkoping (BL)

A full day of agricultural and sightseeing visits centered around the area of Lake Vattern, featuring beef and grain production.

Monday 23 August

Day 26 Jonkoping - Frederikshavn (BD)

Travel to Gothenburg for a tour of this

thriving coastal city and later in the day board the ferry to Frederikshavn on the northeast coast of the Jutland peninsula in northern Denmark.

Tuesday 24 August

Day 27 Frederikshavn - Aarhus (BLD)

You are now in an area known as the "Garden of Denmark" because of its charming countryside and rich farmland. Today's visits in Jutland feature a large arable operation with a biogas plant and a Limousin cattle property.

Wednesday 25 August

Day 28 Aarhus - Copenhagen (BD)

First visit a mixed dairy and arable farm with 149 milking cows and 204 ha arable land. Then travel to the lovely old town of Odense for a visit to the home of Hans Christian Anderson. Continue on returning to wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen the home of Crown Prince Frederik and our Princess Mary.

Thursday 26 August

Day 29 Copenhagen (BD)

This morning visit a farm estate, just south of Copenhagen, involved in forestry, cereals, beet and pasture with over a 1,000 Texel sheep and other sheep breeds. This evening enjoy your farewell dinner before returning home.

Friday 27 August

Day 30 Depart Copenhagen (B)

For those tour members returning home today they will be transferred to the airport in plenty of time to board Singapore Airlines flight SQ 351 departing at 12.30 pm arriving Singapore at 6.30 am the next day. Flights to Australia depart between 7.45 am and 9.40 am while the flight to Adelaide does not depart until 11.10 pm

Saturday 28 August 2021

Day 31 Arrive Australia

Singapore Airlines flights arrive Perth at 12.50 pm; arrive Melbourne at 5.10 pm; arrive Sydney at 7.15 pm; arrive Brisbane at 7.30 pm while the Adelaide flight arrives at 7.30 am the next Day. On arrival at Australian Airports all tour members will be required to clear Customs and Immigration formalities.



... the small print *(please read carefully)*

Terms and Conditions.

TOUR COST INCLUDES:

Travel Tickets:

Economy class air travel throughout. This brochure is based on the services of Singapore Airlines, however, the services of other carriers may be used.

Accommodation:

Twin bedded or double rooms with private facilities throughout the tour in mostly 3/4 star standard hotels.

Single Room

These rooms are limited in number throughout the tour at an additional cost of \$2,680 by choice or circumstance.

Meals:

As indicated in the itinerary. B=Breakfast. L=Lunch. D=Dinner.

Baggage:

30 kgs (66lbs) per tour member. Due to limited space available on the coaches and in accordance with the airlines, tour members are entitled to take one suitcase per person plus one cabin bag which is not to exceed 4kgs (8lbs).

Transfers:

Between all overseas airports and hotels and vice versa by coach and ferry.

Sightseeing and Technical Visits:

As indicated in the itinerary by coach.

Tour Escort:

The services of an Australian Farmers' escort from Australia and back provided a minimum number of 30 passengers are attained.

Tour Guide:

The services of English speaking tour guides throughout.

Gratuities and Taxes:

Local hotel taxes included throughout and portage as well as tipping and all applicable airline taxes and fuel surcharges.

Tour Cost Does Not Include:

Transportation and portage of heavy baggage, all expenses of a personal nature - laundry, telephone, beverages, including alcoholic, morning and afternoon teas, gratuities to hotel staff, travel insurance and passport fees.

Travel Insurance:

The policy, available from your local Travel Agent or Post Office should at least include the following features and is an additional cost to the tour: • loss of deposit through cancellation • personal baggage and loss of money • medical expenses • additional expenses to cover additional hotel accommodation and repatriation costs to Australia should the tour need to be curtailed due to illness while overseas, or, due to the need to return to Australia because of unexpected death or illness of a close relative. This feature should also cover cancellation of transport services due to industrial action.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Reservations:

Reservations are accepted subject to the conditions specified when accompanied by a completed booking form and a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person. The balance is payable 60 days prior to departure.

Cancellations:

If you cancel, the following per person cancellation fees apply: - up to 60 days prior to departure -\$500 per person - within 60 days of departure - 100% of the airfare and up to 100% of the land cost per person (as required by International Airline Regulations).

Tour Conditions and Costs:

Based on a group departure airfare from Australia. The tour costs are based on a minimum group departure of 30 passengers on tariffs and airfares (one Australian dollar = Euro .620962) and airfares effective 31st May 2019 and are subject to change with or without notice, consequent upon any increases in the basic tariffs and/or exchange fluctuations. Prices shown are Australian currency.

Travel Documents:

Australian born or naturalised citizens require a valid passport which must have a validity of at least 6 months to visit these European and Scandinavia countries. Please contact your local family doctor regarding health requirements who will advise what vaccinations and/or inoculations, if any, may be required.

The Australian Government travel advice website is :-
www.smartraveller.gov.au/advice

Transportation:

The transportation companies or firms shall be exempt from all liability in respect of any detention, delay, and loss, damage, sickness or injury however and by whomsoever caused and whatever kind occurring of or to the passenger at any time when the passenger is not on board a carrier or conveyance used or operated by the transportation companies or firms. The passage contract in use by the transportation companies or firms concerned shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours and/or passengers. All tickets, deposit tickets, coupons and orders are furnished and issued subject in all respects to those terms and conditions under which the means of transportation, or other services are provided thereby are offered or supplied by owners, operators, public carriers, managing agents or agents. The right is reserved to amend the itineraries and hotels stated without prior notification.

Schedules:

All itineraries in this brochure are subject to alteration. Airline schedules are also subject to alteration through unforeseen circumstances.

Responsibility:

Australian Farmers Travel, herein after known as the Tour Operator, accepts the bookings and makes arrangements as agents upon the express condition it is not liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, irregularity, which may occur either by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passengers, or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour or otherwise in connection therewith, or of any hotel proprietor or servant, or for any failures on the part of the hotel to provide any of the facilities normally available. Such conveying, etc. is subject to the laws of the country where conveyance, etc. is provided. Baggage is at "owner's risk" throughout the tour(s) unless insured. Small articles coats, wraps, umbrellas and other hand baggage, are entirely under the care of the passenger, who is cautioned against the risk attached to these being left in conveyances. The Tour Operator is not liable for losses or additional expenses due to delays or changes in train steamer, motor, air or other services, sickness, weather, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger. It is not liable for any act, omission or event, during the

time passengers are not on board their aircraft or conveyances.

All prices quoted are based on tariffs and exchange rates current at the time of printing and are subject to alteration without any previous notice consequent upon any increase in their basic tariffs and/or exchange fluctuations. Should it be considered desirable to withdraw any of the arrangements, the full deposits paid will be returned to the passengers and upon tendering same, all liability of the organisers in respect thereof shall cease. They also reserve the right to modify the itinerary in any way they think desirable. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of any part of the tour at any time.

Booking Conditions

The Tour Operator, accepts the booking and agrees to arrange the travel facilities in relation to the specified itinerary only upon the following conditions: -

1. In issuing tickets and coupons for travel conveyance or transport, and in making arrangements for hotel or other accommodation. The Tour Operator is acting as Booking Agents only for the person or corporations providing the means of travel or accommodation (hereinafter called 'Principals'). The Tour Operator shall not be liable or responsible in respect of any loss, damage, injury, accident, delay or irregularity occurring to any person or property occasioned, sustained or suffered in the course of any holiday, journey or accommodation, or the use of any facilities booked by or through the Tour Operator and notwithstanding that its Principals may be a foreign company, corporation or person. So far as the Tour Operator shall not be acting as the agent it shall be deemed to be acting as agent for the person making the booking.
2. The Principals as aforesaid have the right to change prices without notice at any time either before or after this booking. The Tour Operator reserves the right to require further payment to cover any such increases and any change in exchange rates for foreign currency or to vary the travel, accommodation or tour arrangement to wholly or partly compensate for any such increase or change.
3. The Principals will carry persons and goods and provide accommodation and tours only on the terms and conditions imposed by them respectively including conditions and regulations appearing on tickets. The travellers agree to accept and abide by the terms and conditions imposed.
4. If after the departure a person taking this tour for sickness or any reason whatsoever does not avail himself of any travel, accommodation or tour arrangements, no refund or other allowance or alternative arrangements will be made in respect of any travel, accommodation or tour or sightseeing not availed of. No allowance or refund can be made in respect of any lost or unused tickets, vouchers, coupons or other authorities entitling a traveller to use only a part of the specified itinerary.
5. The Tour Operator believes the contents of the brochure relating to these tours to be true at the time of printing of this brochure. The Tour Operator makes no express or implied representation or warranty with respect to the standard of service or accommodation given by any of its Principals providing transport or accommodation as at the time the traveller undertakes the tour. The Tour Operator shall not be held liable to any person who has made a booking in the event of such person's dissatisfaction with any such service or accommodation.
6. The Tour Operator and its Principals reserve the right to refuse to carry or accommodate any person whom it considers unsuitable by reason of age or physical or mental condition.
7. The Tour Operator reserves the right to alter, amend or cancel any of the arrangements contained in the tour.
8. The Tour Operator reserves the right to abandon the tour no less than 45 days prior to departure should insufficient bookings or reservations be received.
9. The Tour Operator will in no circumstances be responsible for travellers' baggage, personal possessions, health or welfare.

Australian Business Register : 86 216 491 497

BOOKING FORM: 2021 North Europe, Baltic States & Scandinavia

This booking form must be attached to all deposit cheques and returned to Australian Farmers Travel
P O Box 346 Cooroy Qld 4563

Depart from.....Email.....

Passenger details (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

Christian Name	Known as	Surname	Age	Nationality	Accommodation Single/Twin/Double
EXAMPLE Mr William	Bill	Smith	55	Australian	Share Twin

Address

Postcode..... Telephone Mobile.....

A non-refundable deposit of \$.....is attached being \$500 per person.

Australian Farmers Travel
P O Box 346
Cooroy Qld 4563

Phone : (07) 5447 0559

Email: andrewcurry@bigpond.com

Skype: [andrew.curry44](https://www.skype.com/user/andrew.curry44)

Web site: www.austfarmers.com.au

Licence: 32113 IATA 02 3 2488 4

