

Plan a trip to Australia with a "dinkie di Aussie"

Regardless of where one travels it's best to get advice about how to get there, places to stay, clothes to take and other pertinent facts from someone who's familiar with that location.

Karen Hardy Hodgson took that advice and turned it into a livelihood. A native of Australia, with a travel business that specializes in arranging travel to Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Its name is Australia 2000 Travel Ltd.

After living in the United States for ten years and continually hearing of the difficulties Americans had making travel arrangements to Australia she took the bull by the horns. In 1992 she opened Australia 2000 Travel.

Because of her first hand knowledge of her homeland, Hodgson is the perfect person to introduce people to its unspoiled beauty and that of the neighboring countries. Australia is a land of beautiful beaches, the Outback and cosmopolitan cities. It also has its unique native animals, vast rugged landscape, glorious weather and friendly people.

By frequently visiting the South Pacific Hodgson is able to ensure a close watch on the travel industry standards. She's then able to utilize this knowledge combining it with her clients' wishes to create an exciting itin-

erary designed for the American traveler. Australia 2000 Travel does all the work for the customer by arranging customized itineraries, air tickets, land packages and fully escorted tours.

If fact, this coming fall she's escorting 20 people on a three week tour to "all the places of my heart". "People can call 800-875-4630 for details. I'm asking anyone interested to reserve a spot by this May".

The best way to begin planning your tour is to meet with Hodgson at her Birmingham office. Regular hours are 9am-5pm Mondays through Fridays. Special arrangements can be made for evening or weekend appointments.



Karen Hardy & Melissa Ramond

Magnolias is a home accessory haven

It's one thing to paint the walls just the right color and to place furniture in interesting places, but a room isn't complete until just the right accessories are selected and placed in the perfect location.

and popular bridal registry.

There are several reasons for its immediate success. One is its stock. Christie keeps Magnolias filled with gifts and items that can give homes a new, but not trendy, look. Much of the

merchandise is the type family members hand down through the generations. Christie and her staff of six go out of their way to find just the right gift or accessory. In fact, if a customer wants something the shop doesn't carry, they'll search until they find the right item. They take special orders and deliver accessories. Also, Christie works hard at keeping prices reasonable. A customer can pick up a wonderful hostess gift for less than \$30.

Christie wants to expand Magnolias to provide more in the way of interior decorating. Many of the customers already have experienced Christie's talents along this line and more are requesting her services. She's glad to visit a client's home and offer decorating advice.

Magnolias is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day Mondays through Saturdays with the exception of Thursdays, when it stays open until 8 p.m.



Missy Astor, Missy Christie - owner, and Lady Petunia.

Those accessories can be so difficult to find. Knowing that is why Missy Christie opened her store, Magnolias, two years ago. It's located at 288 East Maple in Birmingham. It's already known for its superb customer service

Ultimate Australia

from
Opera to
Tasmanian
Devils



Fully Escorted Tour
August 31 -
September 20, 1996
Come join this Aussie
as we experience

- the
- Great Barrier Reef
- Sydney Harbour
- Cosmopolitan Cities
- Ancient Rainforests
- Country Towns
- Tasmanian Wilderness

OR: Call us for an itinerary
customized especially for you!



Call 800-875-4530 to reserve space

Magnolias

A fine gift and home accessory boutique.

288 E. Maple Road
Birmingham
(810) 433-0860