UZBEKISTAN & TURKMENISTAN
A JOURNEY THROUGH CENTRAL ASIA
SEPTEMBER 8-24, 2017
TOUR LEADER: CHRIS BRADLEY
With their long history, impressive sites and exotic ambiance, the central Asian caravan cities of Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara have long attracted intrepid travellers from the west. Over the last decade or so travel to Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan has opened up and tourist infrastructure has developed, making not only these legendary cites more accessible to travellers, but also the archaeology, history and culture of more remote places in these countries.

This 17-day tour combines Islamic architecture, Emir’s palaces, mosques and mausoleums with visits to the Silk Road cities of Khiva, Ashgabat, the city of love, Bukhara and Samarkand. Explore Sassanian citadels and Achaemenid cities in the desert oasis of Merv. Wander through the archaeological ruins left by ancient Parthian kings at Nisa. Visit the mighty warrior Tamerlane’s birthplace at Shahr-i-Sabz and one of Uzbekistan’s most important archaeological sites of Afrosiab, the capital of ancient nation of Sogdiana.

Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are challenging destinations. While we have selected reputable hotels, standards are variable and many of the comforts of travel which we have come to expect are simply not available. A good level of physical fitness, patience in dealing with border crossings and a preparedness to accept last-minute changes to the travel program are required to participate in this tour.

Christopher Bradley has an honours degree from Liverpool University and specialises in the history and art of the Middle East. One of his particular interests is the spread of culture and ideas along the Silk Road, especially within Central Asia. He wrote most of ‘The Insight Guide to the Silk Road,’ which is lavishly illustrated by many of his own photographs. He lectures to ADFAS, universities and the Royal Geographical Society, and has travelled along the Silk Road for over 30 years.

“Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are fascinating examples of the old and the new,” he says. “Evocative trading centres such as Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva conjure up images of camel trains carrying exotic goods from the East, but their defining features are much older - and newer - than just the Silk Road. Influences from the ancient Persians, Greeks, Arabs, Mongols and Russians have created a unique Central Asian identity, and yet both of these countries have emerged with their own distinctive characters.”

“Chris Bradley is one of the most energetic and passionate tour leaders regarding his topic, so caring, helpful and full of fun.” Tour participant, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, May 2016
TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

KHIVA
Step into another era surrounded by history visiting the mosques, minarets and madrassas at the walled city of Khiva, a trading post and fort dating back to the 8th century.

KUNYA URGENCH
The restored Central Islamic architecture at the World Heritage listed site of Kunya Urgench, largely destroyed by Ghengis Khan in the 13th century.

Merv
Admire outstanding examples of Sassanid and Achaemenid cities at the oasis of Merv on the Silk Road and occupied at various times by Persians, Arabs, Turks, Mongols and Uzbeks.

Samarkand
Examine archaeological sites at Shar-i-Sabz and the mosques and mausoleums of Samarkand, the Jewel of Tamerlane’s crown in the heart of the Silk Road.

Bukhara
Visit Bukhara, an architectural preserve of Samanid monuments, linked with the last Persian dynasty to rule Central Asia and inhabited for at least five millennia.
Anyone who has an epitaph inscribed on their tomb, "If I were alive, people would not be glad," must be worth knowing more about. Tamerlane started his career as a bandit, but was shot with an arrow in his right shoulder and hip while rustling sheep. His wounds gave rise to his pejorative Persian nickname Timur-i-Leme (Timur the Lame) later Latinised into Tamerlane.

Timur’s ambitions were not easily contained, and by 1370 he had vanquished his former brother-in-law to be crowned ruler of Chaghatai – “Conqueror of the World”. He defeated the Ottoman sultan Beyazid in Ankara, destroyed the Golden Horde on the Kazakh Steppe, and wrested control of trade routes from Delhi to Damascus. It has been estimated that Timur’s merciless campaigns led to the deaths of 17 million people - even more than Genghis Khan who rampaged through the region a century earlier.

Though he remains little-known in the West, his reputation alone was enough to inspire poetry by Edgar Allan Poe (Tamerlane), drama by Christopher Marlow (Tamburlaine the Great) and operas by both Handel and Vivaldi (Il Tamerlano). Like all the great nomad leaders, Timur suffered the fate of being chronicled almost exclusively through the jaundiced eyes of his victims.

The man himself was in many ways a contradiction. He spoke both Persian and Turkic fluently and had a great respect for learned men, yet he himself was illiterate. He was a Muslim, but never let his religion get in the way of his conquests, and had at least 12 wives. A nomad at heart who lived on the move, he also created some of the most beautiful urban architecture the world has ever seen, particularly in Samarkand. A chess fanatic, he invented a new game that employed twice the number of pieces (including camels, giraffes and war engines).

Timur died in February 1405 in Otrar while planning his biggest campaign yet, the invasion of Ming China. His body was “embalmed with musk and rose-water, wrapped in linen, laid in an ebony coffin and sent to Samarkand”, and interred in the stunning Gur-i-Mir mausoleum complex. Legends say that his howls were heard nightly for a year after his burial.

Today Uzbekistan celebrates their most famous son with three giant bronze statues. In Shakhrisabz he stands defiantly in front of the remains of his massive Ak Sarai Palace; in Samarkand he is in a more reflective seated pose near to his tomb; whilst in the middle of Timur Square in Tashkent, he proudly waves to the crowds riding his horse, near to his own museum.
Detailed Itinerary

Included meals are shown with the symbols B, L and D.

Friday 8 September
Arrival

The tour begins at the Tashkent hotel in the evening, once the Korean Airline flight has arrived. After checking in and time to freshen up, a light dinner will be available in the hotel. (D)

Saturday 9 September
Exploring Tashkent

An important trading post in Central Asia, Tashkent has a chequered history of invasion from Genghis Khan to the Russian occupation. Our orientation of Tashkent begins with Amir Timur Square, dominated by a statue of the powerful Timurid military leader and statesman Amir Timurid on horseback. The buildings around the square are all built in differing styles of architecture from the Samarkand style to the baroque. We pass by the modern Parliament building and the Navoi Opera and ballet theatre and see Independence Square, a favourite resting place for the locals with its impressive monuments, fountains and gardens. Early this afternoon we travel to the airport for our flight to Khiva where we have a short introductory walk through the town before a welcome dinner in the hotel. (B, L, D)

Sunday 10 September
Exploring Khiva

Entering the walled city of Khiva, a trading post and minor fort since the 8th century, is like stepping into another era surrounded by history. Our sightseeing includes the Kunya Ark, the citadel of the Khiva rulers complete with the Khan’s harem. Inside the city walls we visit the mosques, minarets and madrassas of the old town. Of particular note is the Pakhlavon Mahmud Mausoleum the resting place of Khiva’s patron saint (B, L, D)

Monday 11 September
Khiva to Nukus

We depart for Nukus, making an extended stop to visit the ruins of the ancient Khorezm fortresses, Ayaz Qala and Tuprak Qala. This afternoon we visit the Savitsky Museum, which has a collection of unique paintings and applied arts items. (B, L, D)

Tuesday 12 September
To Ashgabat

Today we cross into Turkmenistan, meeting our Turkmen guide and coach driver having completed the lengthy border crossing procedures. We continue to Kunya Urgench, destroyed by Genghis Khan in the 13th century it was rebuilt.
and is listed as a World Heritage site. We visit the Najmitdin Kubra Mausoleum, and the Turabek Khanum complex with its geometric patterned octagonal dome featuring beautiful mosaics. We travel to Dashoguz Airport and board an evening flight to Ashgabat. (B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER
TOURING ASHGABAT

A short drive Ashgabat to Nisa where we explore the ruins of the ancient Parthian kings dating from the third century BCE. We visit Gypjak, site of the Turkmenbashi Mosque and mausoleum, the largest in Central Asia with its four minarets soaring above the gold dome built as a monument to Turkmenistan’s first president. Ashgabat, meaning the city of love in Arabic, is a modern city with many interesting sites. Our afternoon touring commences at the Turkmen carpet museum, which boasts the world’s largest hand-woven rug, followed by a visit to the Ertogrul Ghazi Mosque, which is reminiscent in style of the Blue Mosque in Istanbul. (B, D)

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER
TO MARY

This morning we visit the National Museum of Turkmenistan, a sprawling complex surveying the country’s long history and containing some exceptional archaeological and ethnographic exhibits. This afternoon we depart from Ashgabat Airport on our flight to Mary (B, L, D)

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER
TOURING MERV

The ancient city of Merv is strategically located at an oasis on the Silk Road and was a major centre for religious study and an important commercial metropolis. Occupied at various times by Persians, Arabs, Turks, Mongols and Uzbeks we explore the Sassanian fortress of Gyaur Kala and the Achaemenid city of Erk Kala. Although Zoroastrianism was the state religion the area was home to Christians, Jews and Buddhists and the remains of a stupa and monastery can be seen at Gyaur Kala making it the westernmost point to which Buddhism spread. We visit the Citadel of Sultan Kala and its testimony to Seljuk power and recently restored Mausoleum of Sultan Sanjar, under whom Merv reached the height of its prosperity throughout the 11th and 12th centuries. We return to Mary for lunch and free time to explore the bazaar. (B, L, D)

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER
TO BUKHARA

We depart Turkmenistan today for Bukhara, a drive of 380km including a stop for lunch en route. Crossing the border back into Uzbekistan we once again undergo the lengthy border procedures before continuing to our hotel and check in. (B, L, D)

Images left: beautiful fabrics on sale at the Ashgabat Bazaar and the recently restored Mausoleum of Sultan Sanjar in Merv
SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER
EXPLORING BUKHARA

The city of Bukhara has long been a centre of trade, scholarship, culture and religion, and the historic centre is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Sightseeing includes the 9th/10th-century Ismail Samani mausoleum, one of the most highly-regarded expressions of Central Asian architecture. We also visit the Ark Fortress, Bukhara’s oldest structure occupied from the 5th-century and Zindan, a jail which is now a museum. Dinner this evening is in a madrassa and includes a folkloric performance. (B, D)

MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER
AROUND BUKHARA

Further exploration of Bukhara takes us to Char Minar, built as a gatehouse to a madrassa. We also visit the Baliyan and Kalon Mosques and the House of Faizullah Khodjaev, an infamous Bukhari personality who plotted with the Bolsheviks to overthrow the Emir and was rewarded with the presidency of the Bukhara People’s Republic. The afternoon and evening are at leisure. (B)

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
THE EMIR’S PALACE

Today we travel outside of Bukhara stopping at the Rabat-i Malik Caravanserai, unusual in style it resembles an early Abbasid palaces rather than traditional a Seljuk inn house. Continuing to Vabkent, we see the 12th-century minaret. We return to Bukhara via the Emirs’ Summer Palace where the last Emirs of Bukhara ruled until the early 20th-century. We return to the hotel where the afternoon is free. (B, D)

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER
SHAHR-I-SABZ

We travel to Samarkand stopping at Shahr-i Sabz, the birthplace of the great warrior Timur in the 14th-century, and most of the monuments we see date from the time of his rule. Our sightseeing includes the ruins of the White Palace, Tamerlane’s most ambitious project, the Kok Gumbaz or ‘House of Contemplation’ – two blue-domed 15th-century mosques and the mausolea of Jakhongir and Omar-Shaykh. We continue to Samarkand in the afternoon. (B, L, D)

THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER
EXPLORING SAMARKAND

Our touring begins at the Bibi Khanum Mosque, the jewel in Tamerlane’s empire. Registan for many people epitomises a Silk Road city and is the heart of ancient Samarkand. Here we visit the main square and the three imposing madrassas, adorned with large central arches and mosaic panels. After lunch we visit the Ulugbek Observatory, destroyed after Ulugbek’s death and only unearthed again by archaeologists in 1908. Our final stop is the Gur Emir Mausoleum which is...
Tamerlane’s resting place as well as that of his sons and grandsons including Ulugbek. (B, L, D)

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER
AROUND SAMARKAND

This morning we visit one of Uzbekistan’s most important archaeological sites. Afrosiab was the capital of ancient nation of Sogdiana and has a museum which contains a 7th-century fresco of King Varkouman receiving foreign dignitaries as well as various terracotta and bronze artefacts. From the museum we visit Shah-i-Zinda, an avenue of mausoleums that contain some of the richest tile work in the Muslim world (B, D)

SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER
RETURN TO TASHKENT

We depart Samarkand and make the 300km journey to Tashkent where we have lunch and check into our hotel. This evening we meet for our farewell dinner (B, L, D)

SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER
DEPARTURE FROM TASHKENT

Today is free with the option to visit the Chor-su bazaar and the old town. Rooms are available until we transfer to the airport this evening. (B)

HOTELS

Hotels on this tour vary from five- star to simple three-star hotels according to what is available, and there is an overnight stop in a very simple two-star hotel. Some hotels are large constructions and lack any distinctive atmosphere. Others are small and simple, but well located. Please also note that the overall quality and service standards in the hotels are not necessarily at the same level as other countries

- Tashkent, Lotte City Hotel Tashkent Palace (2 nights)
- Khiva, Orient Star (2 nights)
- Nukus, Jipek Joli (1 night)
- Ashgabat, Yyldyz Hotel (2 nights)
- Mary, Mary Hotel (2 nights)
- Bukhara, Omar Khayam Hotel (4 nights)
- Samarkand, Registan Plaza Hotel (2 nights)

Exploring the Shah-i-Zinda mausoleum, Samarkand, which contains some of the richest tile work in the Muslim world
TOUR PRICE
The tour price is $7,890 per person, twin share (land content only). The supplement for a single room is $945 per person. A non-refundable deposit of $500 per person is required to secure a place on the tour.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE
- 16 nights in the best available accommodation
- One way economy class air travel from Tashkent to Khiva, Dashoguz to Ashgabat and Ashgabat to Mary
- All breakfasts, lunches and dinners in hotels and restaurants as indicated in the itinerary
- Services of your tour leader throughout the tour
- Local tour guide/managers in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan
- Background talks and tour notes
- All land travel by private air-conditioned coach
- All entrance fees to sites mentioned in itinerary
- Tips to local guides, drivers and restaurants
- All visa costs and departure taxes

NOT INCLUDED
- International air fares, taxes and surcharges (see below)
- Travel insurance
- Meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Expenses of a personal nature

AIR TRAVEL OPTIONS
The tour price quoted is for land content only. If you are travelling directly to and from Australia to join the tour, we recommend travel with Korean Airlines via Seoul to Tashkent. A stopover in Seoul is required in each direction. Please contact us for further information on competitive Economy, Business and First Class airfares. Transfers between airport and hotel are included for all passengers booking their flights through Academy Travel.

ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS
For further information and to secure a place on this tour please contact Frederick Steyn at Academy Travel on 9235 0023 or 1800 639 699 (outside Sydney) or email frederick@academytravel.com.au

WEATHER ON TOUR
Average temperatures in both countries during the tour should be approximately 28 degrees during the day with minimums of 12 degrees at night. Be prepared for hotter days in the early part of the tour with temperatures easing as the tour progresses into autumn.

FITNESS REQUIREMENTS
OF THIS TOUR

GRADE THREE ★ ★ ★
It is important both for you and for your fellow travellers that you are fit enough to be able to enjoy all the activities on this tour. To give you an indication of the level of physical fitness required to participate on our tours, we have given them a star grading. Academy Travel’s tours tend to feature extended walking tours and site visits, which require greater fitness than coach touring. We ask you to carefully consider your ability to meet the physical demands of the tour.

Participation criteria for this tour
This Grade Three tour is among our most physically demanding. To participate on this tour, you should be able to comfortably undertake up to seven hours per day, over several days. Activities may include travelling long distances, walking on difficult terrain, climbing stairs, embarking and disembarking trains and/or boats, exposure to high altitudes and long days of touring. These tours may include one night stops and early starts.

You should be able to:
- keep up with the group at all times
- walk for 5-7 kilometres at a moderate pace with only short breaks
- stand for a reasonable length of time in galleries and museums
- tolerate varying climatic conditions such as cold weather
- a reasonable level of physical and respiratory fitness
- tolerate a diet that can be significantly different from a typical Australian diet, and where some dietary requirements cannot be met
- walk up and down slopes
- negotiate steps and slopes on archaeological sites or mountain paths, which are often uneven and unstable
- get on and off a large coach with steep steps, train or boat unassisted, possibly with luggage
- move your luggage a short distance if required

A note for older travellers
We regret that we are not able to accept bookings on a Grade Three tour from people more than 80 years old, or with restricted mobility.
ABOUT ACADEMY TRAVEL

Each year Academy Travel organises around 50 journeys to Europe, the Mediterranean, Asia and the Americas, each focusing on a distinctive historical, artistic or cultural theme. The aim of every Academy Travel journey is to combine the pleasures of independent travel with the benefits and shared enjoyment of a group. Academy Travel is an Australian-owned travel company, founded in 2004. The company’s staff includes both academic experts and travel professionals with over two decades’ industry experience. We also have our own office in Rome which organises our tours in Western Europe. This means we have direct control over the selection of hotels, restaurants, coaches and local guides, guaranteeing superior quality.

CAREFULLY PLANNED ITINERARIES

All itineraries feature a carefully thought out balance of walking tours, gallery and museum visits, scenic excursions, dining and performances.

LIKE-MINDED GROUPS

Share your journey with fellow travellers who are in tune with your way of seeing the world. A maximum of 20 participants – not too small and not too large – creates a convivial atmosphere.

LONG STAYS

Perhaps the most appealing feature of our program. No whistlestop tours, no 7.00am departures, day after day. In most destinations we enjoy three or four nights to really get to know the place.

SPECIAL EXPERIENCES

A private viewing of the Sistine Chapel or the Museum of Modern Art in New York? Tickets to a sold-out performance of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra? Many of our tours feature top-flight events not usually offered on group tours.

EXPERT TOUR LEADERS

Our tour leaders combine academic expertise with a genuine passion for the places you visit. Under their expert guidance you see rather than just look, hear rather than just listen and understand rather than just observe. Your travel experience is transformed.

IN-DEPTH INFORMATION

With extensive printed tour materials, including detailed tour notes, destination guides, and daily programs, you’ll build up a coherent understanding of the country you’re visiting, not just a fragmented set of facts. These materials are also available in electronic format.
BOOKING FORM

A  YOUR DETAILS

PASSenger 1
Your title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr etc):  Your full name (as it appears on your passport):

Preferred first name:               Date of birth:

Postal Address:

State:       Postcode:

Email:

Phone:       (   )

Mobile:

Passport number:       Expiry date:

Frequent flyer number(s):

Seating (Aisle or window):

Name of next of kin (not travelling with you):     Relationship to you:       Contact number of next of kin:

I have previously travelled with Academy Travel

PASSenger 2
Your title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr etc):  Your full name (as it appears on your passport):

Preferred first name:               Date of birth:

Postal Address:

State:       Postcode:

Email:

Phone:       (   )

Mobile:

Passport number:       Expiry date:

Frequent flyer number(s):

Seating (Aisle or window):

Name of next of kin (not travelling with you):     Relationship to you:       Contact number of next of kin:

This is my first tour with Academy Travel

PROOF OF IDENTITY  Please provide a photocopy of the photo page of your passport together with this booking form.

ROOMING PREFERENCES  I am travelling:  on my own   with a friend or family member. Name of friend or family member (if not passenger 2)

We would like:  a room for sole occupancy   a twin-bedded room   a double-bedded room

B  YOUR SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

MEAL REQUIREMENTS/ALLERGIES
Please indicate below if you have any special dietary requirements. Appropriate meals will be requested for you on all flights and group meals based on this information.

PASSenger 1
I do not have any specific dietary requirements or allergies
I have the following specific dietary requirements/allergies:

PASSenger 2
I do not have any specific dietary requirements or allergies
I have the following specific dietary requirements/allergies:

MEDICAL CONDITIONS
Please indicate below if you have any serious health issue that may affect your travel insurance coverage, your physical capacity to undertake some activities on tour or may otherwise need to be considered by the tour leader/manager during the tour.

PASSenger 1
I have no specific medical condition that Academy Travel needs to know about
Academy Travel needs to know about the following medical condition(s):

PASSenger 2
I have no specific medical condition that Academy Travel needs to know about
Academy Travel needs to know about the following medical condition(s):

Level 1, 341 George Street Sydney NSW 2000    Phone: +61 2 9235 0023 or 1800 639 699 (outside Sydney)    ACADEMY TRAVEL
YOUR TRAVEL PLANS

- We wish Academy Travel to arrange air travel from Australia.
  - Economy Class
  - Business Class
- We will organise our own air travel.
- We are undecided about air travel. Please contact us to discuss the available options.
- I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences.
- Planned departure date: 
- I intend to take part in the extension tour offered in the itinerary (if applicable).

YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF BOOKING CONDITIONS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND SIGN BELOW

DEPOSITS
A deposit of $500 per person is required to confirm your booking on a tour. Final payment of the tour fee, insurance and any additional travel will be due 60 days before departure.

CANCELLATION FEES
If you decide to cancel your booking the following charges apply:
- More than 90 days before departure: $500
- 60-45 days before tour start: 25% of total amount due
- 44-15 days before tour start: 75% of total amount due
- 14 days or less before departure: 100% of total amount due
*This amount may be credited to another Academy Travel tour within 12 months of the original tour you booked.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR
We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

TRAVEL INSURANCE
Academy Travel requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. We offer a comprehensive policy with a reputable insurer if required.

PASSPORT AND VISA
A valid passport is required for all international travel. If you do not hold an Australian passport you may require a re-entry permit. Some countries require a visa to be issued before you depart Australia. We will advise you of all passport and visa requirements, but it is your responsibility to ensure that you meet passport and visa requirements before you depart.

DEPOSIT PAYMENT
A non-refundable $500 deposit is required for each person listed on this booking form. Please indicate which method you have chosen to pay your deposit:

- Number of passengers: 
- Amount of deposit: $
- Paid directly by cheque (Please make cheques payable to Academy Travel)
- Paid by credit card (Please complete details below)
  - MasterCard
  - Visa
  - American Express
  - Card Number:
  - 3 or 4 digit security code:
  - Expiry date:
  - Name on card:

- Amount: $
- Date:
- Signature:

WILL THE TOUR PRICE CHANGE?
If the number of participants in a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates Academy Travel reserves the right to amend the advertised price. If this occurs you will be given the option of canceling your booking and obtaining a full refund. If an Academy Travel tour is forced to cancel you will get a full refund of all monies paid.

WILL THE ITINERARY OR AIRLINE CHANGE?
Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of Academy Travel make it necessary to change airlines, hotel or to make slight amendments to daily itineraries. We will inform you of any changes as soon as they occur.

FINAL PAYMENT
Full and final payment for the tour, airfare travel, insurance and any additional travel you book is due 60 days before departure. Payment may be made by bank deposit, cheque, cash or credit card. Please note there is a surcharge for payments made by credit card.

Academy Travel reserves the right to decline the booking or terminate the holiday of any traveller:
- We accept the conditions on this booking form
- We have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that we are able to meet these requirements.

Signature:
Date:

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?
Please select one or more where appropriate:

- I receive the Academy Travel Brochure/Newsletter/Emails
- I saw an advertisement in...
- I attended a lecture at...
- Browsing the internet
- A friend recommended Academy Travel
- Other...

SEND
Please send your completed booking form to:
Academy Travel
GPO Box 5057
Sydney NSW 2001
Or email: info@academytravel.com.au or fax it to (02) 9235 0123
Additional booking forms can be downloaded from our website: academytravel.com.au