California-Florida, 2006 CF06

A trip so nice, we had to do it twice! Again, the Aussie Hearts were comprised of a junior girls team and a women's team. Returning women's veterans Lou Binet (NSW)and Eryn Shipp (NSW) helped lead the women, while Celina Whan (NT) graduated from the juniors to the women in 2006

San Francisco was again a jewel with beautiful sunsets across the bay. Alcatraz Island and the San Francisco Giants game were fantastic.

Games against the California Women's League were taken to another level as the Skyline College provided the most beautiful facility that almost everyone had ever played on. Both the women and juniors posted wins and had a great day of baseball at Skyline.

Next was the beautiful Disneyworld Resort in Orlando, Florida. Days in the theme park were also highlighted by a wonderful reception and fireworks at Epcot for the tournament teams. Also, another visit to NASA's Kennedy Space Center provided some inspiration.

Disney's Wide World of Sports shone even brighter with all of having fresh memories of the Australian men's team competing in the World Baseball Classic in the main stadium there earlier in the year.

The Aussie Hearts women finished 3rd at Disney Sunshine Showdown. The junior Aussie Hearts also finished in third place. A warm finish was created when the Aussie Hearts and WBL Sparks mixed their teams to play a friendly game in the main stadium.

Again we had the special good fortune on this tour to share it with an American baseball legend. Jeneane Lesko is a former player in the All American Girls Professional Baseball League (made famous by "A League of Their Own"). This time she was also joined by teammate Jackie Baumgart. Both of these lady legends added a very special dimension to our tour.

CF06 was another great memory for the Aussie Hearts. Special thanks to all the players and families who shared it with us.