



**Pacific Ocean Routes**

Far East: March 1849 - December 1866

Before the January 1, 1867 start of the PMSC contract mail service between San Francisco and Hong Kong, the only option for trans-Pacific mail was by private ship.



Posted May 18, 1859 in Clarence-Town, New South Wales - prepaid 21d for route via England  
 Three 1854 NSW 6d stamps and 1856 NSW 3d stamp - 5¢ US postage due (3¢ inland plus 2¢ ship)



Posted May 16, 1864 in Sydney, NSW - 6d ship postage paid by three 1863 2d stamps  
 Carried by private ship *Uruguay* to San Francisco on October 16 - 10¢ steamship rate due  
 10¢ rate was mistakenly applied - "FOREIGN" marking used August-November 1864



## Pacific Ocean Routes

Far East: June 1866 – December 1868

On June 15, 1866, the Panama New Zealand & Australian Royal Mail Co. (PNZA) began a packet service between New South Wales and Panama, connecting with PMSC steamers to San Francisco.



Posted December 2, 1868 in Sydney, NSW - packet postage prepaid with 1860 1 shilling rose  
 PNZA *Rakaia* left Sydney December 2 and arrived in Panama January 5 - **last sailing of the line**  
 PMSC *Arizona* left Panama on January 14, 1869 and arrived in San Francisco on January 22  
 San Francisco rated letter per ½ ounce blanket steamship rate - charged 10¢ postage due

**Fewer than five covers to the United States by this route are known**