

THE ULTIMATE TERRITORY TOUR

THE GHAN

ADELAIDE TO DARWIN | DEPARTURE WEDNESDAY
(APRIL – OCTOBER)

*Sunday departure also available March to October
with reverse Red Centre touring itinerary to below*

If your dream is to see the best of the Australian outback and immerse yourself in the heart of it with hands-on experiences, this is the ultimate escape. It doesn't come any better than travelling on The Ghan, exploring Uluru and Kata Tjuta, cruising Nitmiluk Gorge in Katherine and exploring Kakadu and Litchfield National Parks, all in one sensational journey through the nation's heartland.

INCLUSIONS

- 1 night aboard The Ghan, Adelaide to Alice Springs, including all meals, beverages and an Off Train Experiences in Marla and Alice Springs
- Transfer from Alice Springs Rail Terminal to hotel
- 1 night's accommodation in Alice Springs, including breakfast
- 5 nights intimate small-group Red Centre touring with Outback Spirit Tours, travelling on board a state-of-the-art 4WD Mercedes-Benz vehicle, including accommodation, guided touring and meals
- 1 night's accommodation in Alice Springs, including breakfast
- Transfer from hotel to Alice Springs Rail Terminal
- 1 night aboard The Ghan, Alice Springs to Darwin, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experience in Katherine
- Transfer from Darwin Rail Terminal to hotel
- 1 nights' accommodation in Darwin, including breakfast
- 2 nights intimate small-group Kakadu, East Alligator River and Litchfield touring with Outback Spirit Tours, travelling on board a state-of-the-art 4WD Mercedes-Benz vehicle, including accommodation, guided touring and meals
- 2 nights' accommodation in Darwin, including breakfast daily
- Darwin Harbour Cruises Sunset Dinner Cruise
- 14 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 10 dinners

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Kings Canyon for a guided scenic walk and journey through the West MacDonnell Ranges, visiting Stanley Chasm and Ormiston Gorge
- Visit World Heritage-listed Uluru and enjoy a guided base tour
- Early risers will experience the magic of the sun rising over Uluru
- Dine under the stars at the 'Sounds of Silence' dining experience
- Explore the rock formations of Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) and Walpa Gorge
- Admire the internationally acclaimed 'Field of Light' display at Uluru and watch as it illuminates the desert night with dazzling effect
- Cruise on the Mary River spotting wildlife, including saltwater crocodiles and an abundance of birdlife
- Visit the Ubirr art site within Kakadu National Park, home to some of the world's most outstanding rock art
- Swim in a waterfall at Litchfield National Park
- Take in the sparkling waters of Darwin Harbour over a delicious dinner of local seafood and produce

**Itinerary subject to change during wet season (March and April)*

DAY 1 – BOARD THE GHAN IN ADELAIDE

Board The Ghan in Adelaide, heading for the Flinders Ranges and beyond. (L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night The Ghan

DAY 2 – THE GHAN, ALICE SPRINGS

Wake to an unforgettable outback sunrise at Marla and enjoy the jaw-dropping natural landscapes that pass by as you travel to Alice Springs. Upon arrival into Alice Springs, join your choice of Off Train Experiences. Once complete, you will be transferred to your hotel to enjoy the evening at leisure. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs



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DAY 3 – ALICE SPRINGS TO ULURU

Today your 5 night Red Centre adventure with Outback Spirit Tours starts! You will be met by your friendly and professional crew at your hotel to depart Alice Springs. On our drive we pass Atila (Mount Conner), known as the third desert tor, before we enter Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Enjoy a drive around the base of Uluru before checking in to the award-winning Sails in the Desert Hotel, part of the Ayers Rock Resort.

This evening head to an exclusive dune top location with majestic views of Uluru. Enjoy drinks and canapes as artist Bruce Munro's global phenomenon 'Field of Light' comes to life before heading off to explore the stunning display via dedicated pathways.

PLEASE NOTE: Dinner this evening will be at approximately 9pm. (B,L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Sails in the Desert Hotel

DAY 4 – ULURU KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK

Early risers will experience the sun rising over Uluru and the colours of dawn spreading across the landscape. After breakfast, head off to discover Kata Tjuta (the Olgas) and admire the stunning rock formations on a guided walk into Walpa Gorge. Learn about traditional Anangu culture on a guided tour around the base of Uluru.

Enjoy this evening's unique 'Sounds of Silence' dining experience under the stars. Beginning with canapes and chilled sparkling wine, listen to the sound of the didgeridoo and the resident star talker decode the southern night sky while enjoying a premium bush tucker inspired buffet. (B,L,D)

DAY 5 – ULURU TO KINGS CANYON

This morning we farewell Uluru and visit Curtin Springs for an informative paper talk, before arriving at Kings Creek Station for lunch. After a short walk at Kathleen Springs, we arrive at Kings Canyon Resort mid-afternoon. (B,L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Kings Canyon Resort

DAY 6 – KINGS CANYON – WATARRKA NATIONAL PARK

Experience the wonders of the majestic Kings Canyon with your choice of walk, including the 6 km rim walk, featuring breathtaking views of the Watarrka National Park or a less arduous 2.6km walk along the canyon floor.

Upon returning to the resort this afternoon, there is an opportunity to take helicopter flights over Kings Canyon and the Watarrka National Park.

PLEASE NOTE: Additional costs are applicable and weight limits apply to all scenic flights. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 – KINGS CANYON TO ALICE SPRINGS

Today we depart Kings Canyon and travel the Mereenie loop through the Western MacDonnell Ranges to Alice Springs. Visit Standley Chasm and Ormiston Gorge before arriving at your hotel in Alice Springs this evening. (B,L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs

DAY 8 – ALICE SPRINGS

This morning enjoy a brief town tour of Alice Springs including Anzac Hill and learn about this unique outback town. Your touring with Outback Spirit concludes at the end of this tour late morning. The afternoon is yours to explore more of the town or simply relax at your hotel and enjoy the facilities. (B)

DAY 9 – BOARD THE GHAN IN ALICE SPRINGS

Check out after breakfast and transfer to the Alice Springs Rail Terminal. Then it's time to get back on board The Ghan and be reacquainted with your cabin. As the train heads north, enjoy watching the scenery through the window. (B,D)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night The Ghan

DAY 10 – THE GHAN, KATHERINE AND DARWIN

The landscape continues to transform as you head towards Katherine, where you'll embark on an Off Train Experience exploring natural wonders you'll never forget. A few hours later, you'll arrive in Darwin and transfer to your accommodation. (B,L)

OVERNIGHT: 1 night Hilton Darwin

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DAY 11 – DARWIN TO KAKADU NATIONAL PARK

Today your touring with Outback Spirit commences. Depart Darwin heading towards Kakadu National Park. Much of the route is along the Arnhem highway, passing the productive region of Humpty Do, where a vast array of tropical fruits is grown, and crossing the Adelaide River, with its vast wetlands, which attract migratory birds. At the Mary River, take to the water on a cruise that showcases the local wildlife, including saltwater crocodiles and the abundance of birdlife in the region.

Continuing east, we enter the World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park, stopping at the Mamukala Wetlands and the Bowali Visitor Centre before arriving at your accommodation, the Crocodile Hotel at Jabiru, so named for the crocodile shape it takes. (B,L,D)

**Due to the seasonal weather experienced in the Top End during March and April, we will visit the Bowali Visitor Centre on Day 2, and the cruise will occur on Adelaide River with crossings at Mary River, West Alligator and South Alligator Rivers*

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel
**Due to availability, some stays may be at Coinda Lodge*

DAY 12 – KAKADU NATIONAL PARK

Begin the day with a drive to the East Alligator River region, known as the gateway to Arnhem Land. Take a spectacular local indigenous cruise on the East Alligator River and listen to the stories of the region as you spot the large saltwater crocodiles that dwell in these waters.

After a peaceful cruise, it's time to reboard the coach and head to the World Heritage Ubirr art site, home to some of the world's most outstanding rock art. Enjoy a 1-kilometre circular track walk and take in the amazing rock art. There will be time for those feeling fit to make the steep 250-meter climb to the top of the rocky escarpment for magnificent views across the Magela floodplain.

Enjoy a light lunch before visiting a local indigenous community arts centre, where there is the opportunity to watch local artists at work and possibly purchase some artwork.

Later, we head out to Nourlangie where you can take in ancient rock paintings and spectacular vistas as you take a 1.5 kilometre walk around this incredible indigenous site.

Then it's time to head back to the hotel to relax and enjoy dinner. (B,L,D)

*** Due to the seasonal weather experienced in the Top End during March and April you may visit the Bowali and Warradjan Visitor Centres in place of Ubirr, and the cruise will occur on Yellow Waters.*

DAY 13 – KAKADU NATIONAL PARK, LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK, DARWIN

This morning is a 6.45am departure to Jabiru Airport, where you'll gain another perspective on this incredible environment. Take to the skies on a 60-minute scenic flight over ancient escarpments, floodplains and winding rivers, exhibiting the results of 1.8 billion years of continuous erosion. Your flight includes live commentary from your pilot as you glide over these spectacular ancient lands.

Following our morning flight, we depart Kakadu National Park and head towards Batchelor, the gateway to Litchfield National Park. Containing several types of typical Top End habitats, Litchfield National Park is abundant with lush monsoon forests, termite mounds, unusual rock formations, waterfalls, and cascades.

After stopping for morning tea, we head onto Wangi Falls; a large plunge pool surrounded by shady grassed areas. The falls flow all year round and after a light lunch, you can take a dip in the crystal-clear pool. Our next stop is Florence Falls. Here you can watch from the scenic viewing platform as the spectacular falls cascade into the plunge pool below. We then head for Darwin, arriving early evening, where your Outback Spirit Tour comes to an end. (B, L)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Hilton Darwin



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DAY 14 – LEISURE DAY, DARWIN HARBOUR DINNER CRUISE

Explore Darwin at your leisure. Tonight, enjoy a dinner cruise on Darwin Harbour Cruises' Charles Darwin catamaran. View the spectacular harbour sunset in air-conditioned comfort while savouring a delicious Territory-style dinner. (B,D)

DAY 15 – FAREWELL

This morning, it's time to check out of your hotel, completing your ultimate Northern Territory adventure. (B)