

# THE GHAN EXPEDITION

DARWIN TO ADELAIDE
DEPARTING TUESDAY (MARCH TO NOVEMBER)
DEPARTING FRIDAY (APRIL TO OCTOBER)
5 Days / 4 Nights

Start your journey with overnight accommodation in this tropical, laid-back city. Make the most of the Top End sunsets by boarding Darwin Harbour Cruises' Charles Darwin catamaran for a sunset dinner cruise. After a relaxed start to your journey, it's time to amp up the excitement by boarding the iconic Ghan Expedition from Darwin to Adelaide, connecting you with incredible landscapes and Off Train Experiences along the way.

### **INCLUSIONS**

- 1 night accommodation in Darwin, including breakfast
- Darwin Harbour Sunset Dinner Cruise
- Transfer from hotel to Darwin Rail Terminal
- 3 nights aboard The Ghan Expedition, Darwin to Adelaide, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Katherine, Alice Springs and Coober Pedy
- 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Enjoy the relaxed vibe of Darwin along the waterfront
- Enjoy dinner with a breathtaking tropical sunset view on your Darwin Harbour Cruise
- Cruise through ancient Nitmiluk Gorge in Katherine
- Explore the outback town of Alice Springs and the unusual underground town of Cooper Pedy

Please note, itineraries are subject to change.

#### **DAY 1 - ARRIVE DARWIN**

You've arrived in Darwin – it's yours to explore. Spend the day at your leisure before checking in to your accommodation.

You haven't seen a sunset until you see a Darwin sunset, and this evening you'll understand why they're so special. Board Darwin Harbour Cruise's catamaran, the Charles Darwin, to savour the sights and enjoy the swirl of the sea breeze as you cruise the Harbour by water. Enjoy a sumptuous meal onboard focused on local produce and fresh seafood. Nothing is more relaxing than soaking up the splendour of the skies, champagne flute in hand. (D)

**OVERNIGHT: 1** night Courtyard by Marriott Darwin

# DAY 2 - BOARD THE GHAN EXPEDITION IN DARWIN

Celebrate the beginning of your journey with a welcome drink and light refreshments and pause for a photo with The Ghan's iconic red locomotive before stepping on board. Settle into your home for the next few days, enjoying the comforts of your cabin, or mingle with fellow travellers in the Outback Explorer Lounge. As The Ghan begins to travel south, a chef-prepared lunch awaits before your Off Train Experience in Katherine.

Here you'll choose how to explore this remarkable region. Cruise through the towering sandstone cliffs and dramatic beauty of Nitmiluk Gorge and uncover its deep cultural significance. Alternatively, step into the Katherine Outback Experience for an authentic glimpse into the lives of those who call the outback home. Or venture underground at the Cutta Cutta Caves, where fascinating limestone formations, native wildlife and stories of Indigenous culture are waiting to be shared. For a different perspective, upgrade to a helicopter flight and take in the scale of Nitmiluk from above. (L,D)

**OVERNIGHT: 3 nights The Ghan Expedition** 

# DAY 3 - THE GHAN EXPEDITION, ALICE SPRINGS

Wake to the wide-open skies of the outback as The Ghan draws closer to the iconic town of Alice Springs. After a hearty breakfast on board, step into the heart of Central Australia with a choice of Off Train Experiences designed to suit every traveller.



Take to the red dirt on an off-road e-bike adventure, join the A Town Called Alice tour to uncover the town's major landmarks, or immerse yourself in culture with a guided journey through Standley Chasm and Simpsons Gap. Here, sheer rock walls blaze red in the sunlight and ancient landscapes hold deep spiritual significance for the Arrernte people. Wildlife lovers can meet desert creatures at Alice Springs Desert Park, while those seeking a grander perspective can opt for a scenic flight over Uluru and Kata Tjuta.

As night falls, the hallmark experience of The Ghan Expedition awaits. At the historic Alice Springs Telegraph Station, dine beneath a canopy of stars, surrounded by the red earth of the desert. With white tablecloths, fine food and live entertainment, it's an evening you'll never forget. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 4 - THE GHAN EXPEDITION, COOBER PEDY

Today brings you to the extraordinary outback town of Coober Pedy, where life is anything but ordinary. Known as the opal capital of the world, this desert settlement hides its treasures both above and below, and more than half the population live underground.

Your adventure begins with a morning stop at the remote outpost of Manguri to take in the sunrise, before continuing on to Coober Pedy for a day of exploration. A highlight is a gourmet lunch enjoyed underground, a dining experience as unique as the town itself. Off Train Experiences include visiting the striking Breakaways, uncovering the town's quirky attractions, or learning the fascinating history of opal mining on the Opal Experience. For an unforgettable view, upgrade to a scenic flight over the Painted Hills and Lake Eyre.

Back on board for your final night, dinner is served in the dining carriage before one last nightcap in the lounge with fellow travellers as The Ghan journeys towards Adelaide. (B,L,D)

# DAY 5 - THE GHAN EXPEDITION, ADELAIDE

This morning, you'll see a dramatic change in landscape as the rich ochre tones of the outback make way for the green fields of South Australia. Enjoy a leisurely brunch as you pass through the Flinders Ranges before arriving into Adelaide.

Stepping off the train, you'll carry more than memories of extraordinary landscapes. You'll take with you the stories shared, the connections made, and the sense of wonder that only a journey through the heart of Australia can bring. (B)