

BAROSSA & KANGAROO ISLAND ESCAPE

THE GHAN EXPEDITION

DARWIN TO ADELAIDE
DEPARTING WEDNESDAY (MARCH TO NOVEMBER)
DEPARTING SATURDAY (APRIL TO OCTOBER)
10 Days / 9 Nights

From the natural, rugged beauty of Kangaroo Island to the vine-clad hills of the Barossa Valley, South Australia is yours to discover on this wine and wildlife adventure. Travelling from Darwin on The Ghan Expedition, you will traverse Outback Australia through the heart of the Red Centre, with stops in Katherine, Alice Springs and Coober Pedy. Rolling into Adelaide, you'll be primed for further epicurean delights to follow. Local produce, refreshing wines and spectacular scenery are the highlights of this journey.

INCLUSIONS

- 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
- Transfer from Adelaide Parklands Terminal to hotel
- 4 nights accommodation in Adelaide, including breakfast daily
- "Feed Me" Food & Wine Experience at the National Wine Centre of Australia, including a four-course lunch with matching wines and hosted tour
- Return flights from Adelaide to Kangaroo Island
- Return hotel to airport transfers in Adelaide to meet the return flights
- 2-night Kangaroo Island in Style tour, including flights to and from the Island, accommodation, most meals and personalised touring
- Northern Barossa Valley Voyager tour including lunch
- 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 5 dinners

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cruise through ancient Nitmiluk Gorge in Katherine
- Explore the outback town of Alice Springs and the unusual underground town of Coober Pedy
- Indulge in a curated "Feed Me" menu showcasing premium South Australian regional produce
- Enjoy expertly paired wines selected by the National Wine Centre's Sommeliers
- Hosted tour of the National Wine Centre of Australia
- Wildlife experience at Seal Bay Conservation Park
- Explore Flinders Chase National Park, Admirals Arch and Remarkable Rocks`
- Discover the history of the Barossa Valley
- Enjoy cellar door tastings, and a delicious lunch with a glass of wine to accompany

Please note, itineraries are subject to change.

DAY 1 – BOARD THE GHAN EXPEDITION IN DARWIN, KATHERINE

Celebrate the start of your journey with a welcome drink and light refreshments, then pause for a photo with the iconic red locomotive before stepping on board. For the next few days, The Ghan will be your home away from home. Settle into the comforts of your cabin or mingle with fellow travellers in the lounge carriage. Enjoy lunch on board as The Ghan makes its way south towards Katherine, before your first Off Train Experience.

Here, the choice is yours as to how to explore this remarkable region. Cruise through the towering sandstone cliffs of Nitmiluk Gorge, uncovering its deep beauty and cultural significance. Step into the Katherine Outback Experience for an authentic glimpse into the lives of those who call the outback home. Or venture underground to 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's 13 gorges from above. (L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 3 nights The Ghan Expedition

DAY 2 – THE GHAN EXPEDITION, ALICE SPRINGS

This morning, wake to the wide-open skies of the outback as The Ghan rolls deeper into Central Australia and towards the iconic town of Alice Springs. After a hearty breakfast on board, step into the heart of the Red Centre with a choice of Off Train Experiences that offer different perspectives on this remarkable part of the country.

Gain a sense of Alice Springs through its pioneering history, distinctive character and connection to the surrounding desert, or venture into the West MacDonnell Ranges for a guided experience at Simpsons Gap or Standley Chasm. Here, sheer red rock walls rise from the ancient landscape, a place of deep spiritual significance for the Arrernte people. Visit Desert Park to encounter native wildlife and gain an insight into the unique desert environments of



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Central Australia, take to the red dirt on an off-road e-bike adventure, or for those seeking a grander perspective, upgrade to a scenic flight over Uluru and Kata Tjuta.

As night falls, a signature experience of The Ghan's southbound journey awaits at the historic Alice Springs Telegraph Station. Settle in beneath a canopy of stars, where white-clothed tables, fine food and live entertainment create a memorable evening surrounded by the red earth of the Australian desert. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 – 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 ground, with more than half of its population living underground.

Your adventure begins as The Ghan arrives at the remote outpost of Manguri, where you'll continue by coach to Coober Pedy. Explore the striking Breakaways, uncover the town's quirky character and attractions, or delve into the fascinating history of opal mining. For a different perspective, upgrade to a scenic flight over Painted Hills and Lake Eyre, taking in the vastness of this ancient landscape from above. A highlight of the day is a gourmet lunch served underground, offering a taste of the town's unique way of life.

Return to the train and settle in for your final evening on board The Ghan. Enjoy dinner in the dining carriage before raising one last nightcap in the lounge with fellow travellers as the train continues south towards Adelaide. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 – THE GHAN EXPEDITION, ADELAIDE

As the sun rises, watch the landscape transform as the rich ochre tones of the outback give way to the green fields of South Australia. Enjoy light refreshments as The Ghan travels through the Flinders Ranges before continuing towards Adelaide. Transfer to your accommodation, home for the next two nights. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Pullman Adelaide

DAY 5 – NATIONAL WINE CENTRE OF AUSTRALIA

Delight in a memorable culinary journey at the National Wine Centre of Australia with a "Feed Me" style lunch dining experience curated by the Head Chef. This indulgent menu showcases the best of South Australia's regional produce, artfully crafted to take your taste buds on a captivating voyage of flavours and textures.
Each course is perfectly paired with premium wines, hand-selected by the Centre's expert Sommeliers to enhance the dining experience and elevate each dish. This immersive food and wine adventure promises to enchant and surprise your palate at every turn.

Following your lunch, enjoy a hosted tour of the National Wine Centre of Australia – a perfect conclusion to this unforgettable sensory experience. (B,L)

DAY 6 – ADELAIDE TO KANGAROO ISLAND

Please note: Day 6 and 7 may be interchanged.

Depart from Adelaide Airport for your flight to magical Kangaroo Island, where you will be met by your guide and begin your 'Island Life' tour. Island Life provides a taste of the way of life in this bucolic spot, where things take time, drivers wave as they go by, and passers-by stop for a chat.

Have a cuppa with some home-made treats before taking a walk down a country track through towering Eucalyptus trees, where koalas snooze overhead or chew languidly on leaves. Listen for the sounds of the bush – brightly coloured honeyeaters and brilliant parrots, cicadas or perhaps just the sound of silence. You'll travel through the island's most productive countryside to the north coast and walk through the bush with your guide, learning what makes that noise and whose tracks those are. Watch for small wallabies, a kangaroo found only on Kangaroo Island, and a variety of other birds, plants and animals.

Lunch is at a private bush camp, where you'll enjoy a delicious meal featuring King George whiting – a local sea fish, fresh salads and fine South Australian wines. At Seal Bay Conservation Park, take a private tour with your guide among Australian sea lions on a beautiful sandy beach. Watch pups nursing or playing in the surf and old bulls bearing the scars of territorial disputes and learn about their unique breeding biology.

After a day of touring, you will return to your accommodation, with dinner included at your hotel. (B,L,D)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge

DAY 7 – KANGAROO ISLAND

Begin the day travelling through some of the regenerating landscapes of Kangaroo Island. Learn about fire ecology



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and how nature deals with this natural hazard. Some of the native flora species only flower following fire.
Travel into Flinders Chase National Park and explore the massive shapes of Remarkable Rocks, a natural sculpture perched impossibly on top a granite dome plunging into the ocean. Then you'll break for an elegant picnic lunch in the bush, or if weather permits, on a spectacular clifftop. Evidence of the power of the Southern Ocean swell continues at Admirals Arch – a coastal grotto that provides a haul out for a large colony of Long-nosed Fur Seals, which swim effortlessly through the crashing waves.

After your last day of touring, you will return to your accommodation, with dinner included at your hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 – KANGAROO ISLAND TO ADELAIDE
This morning, you'll be transferred to the airport for your return flight to Adelaide. Arriving in Adelaide, you will be transferred to your city accommodation to leave your bags and spend the remainder of the day at your leisure.

The evening is free to explore some of Adelaide's many dining and entertainment precincts. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Pullman Adelaide

DAY 9 – BAROSSA VALLEY
Today, delight your senses with boutique wine and food touring to the historic Barossa Valley, with its 80 cellar doors. You'll even visit one of the oldest vineyards in the world, where Shiraz vines were planted in 1843. Enjoy running commentary from your driver as you make your way towards the world-renowned wine region and be guided through some of the best wines South Australia has to offer. Tours are small groups up to 8 people only to ensure a relaxed and unhurried day. Whether you prefer red or white, there will be something to tantalise and delight with tastings at three wineries throughout the day, and a delicious lunch with an accompanying glass of wine included in your tour. (B,L)

DAY 10 – FAREWELL
After breakfast, check out of your accommodation, bringing your epicurean adventure to an end. (B)