

MONARTO SAFARI STAY

THE GHAN EXPEDITION

DARWIN TO ADELAIDE
DEPARTING WEDNESDAY (MARCH TO NOVEMBER)
DEPARTING SATURDAY (APRIL TO OCTOBER)
6 Days / 5 Nights

Journey aboard the iconic Ghan traversing Australia's Red Centre. The Ghan Expedition is a four-day rail adventure from Darwin to Adelaide, connecting you with incredible landscapes, culture and people through Off Train Experiences along the way. On arrival in South Australia's capital, Adelaide, travel to Monarto Safari Resort in the picturesque Murraylands where you'll be surrounded by Africa's wildest animals. Offering an unparalleled escape into nature's embrace, Monarto Safari Resort combines premium accommodation with exclusive experiences, creating memories that last a lifetime.

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights aboard The Ghan Expedition, Darwin to Adelaide, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Experiences in Katherine, Alice Springs and Coober Pedy
- Private vehicle transfer from Adelaide Parklands Terminal to Monarto Safari Resort
- 2 nights accommodation at Monarto Safari Resort, including breakfast daily
- Sunset Wildlife Safari with exclusive access to Monarto Safari Park's Wild Africa area after hours
- Monarto Safari Park general admission ticket
- Private vehicle transfer from Monarto Safari Resort to Adelaide Airport or CBD Hotel
- 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cruise through ancient Nitmiluk Gorge in Katherine
- Explore the outback town of Alice Springs and the unusual underground town of Coober Pedy
- Experience breathtaking landscapes in premium accommodation
- Explore the parklands from the comfort of a custom-built Safari Truck
- Observe Southern White Rhinos, Giraffes, Cheetahs, Eland, Ostriches, and Zebras
- Experience Monarto Safari Park at your leisure via the guided hop-on hop-off Zu-Loop bus

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 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,



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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 AND MONARTO SAFARI RESORT
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.

Upon arriving in Adelaide, you will be transferred by private vehicle to Monarto Safari Resort, approximately 50 minutes from the city centre and nestled in South Australia's expansive Murraylands. Monarto Safari Resort offers an unparalleled escape into nature's embrace, combining premium accommodation with authentic experiences, during your stay you'll be surrounded by Africa's wildest animals.

With some free time before checking in, you may choose to indulge in the luxurious day spa, laze by the two stunning pool areas or enjoy world-class dining at the onsite restaurant at Monarto Safari Resort.

Settle into your new and well curated accommodation before joining the Sunset Wildlife Safari, soaking in the last rays of sun on your small group guided tour. Enjoy exclusive access to Monarto Safari Park's Wild Africa area after hours with ample opportunity to immerse yourself in the vast parklands and watch the free-roaming herds of African animals across 550 hectares. As you explore the lands from the comfort of a custom-built Safari Truck, you'll have the opportunity to observe and photograph animals including Southern White Rhinos, Giraffes, Cheetahs, Eland, Ostriches, and Zebras. Drinks and canapes will be served during the tour, capping off the unforgettable experience. (B)

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Monarto Safari Resort

DAY 5 – MONARTO SAFARI RESORT
Today is yours to explore Monarto Safari Park via the guided Zu-Loop bus experience, or a combination of the Zu-Loop bus and walking. Monarto is the largest open-range safari experience in the world outside of Africa and spans more than 1,500 hectares and is home to more than 50 species of exotic and native mammals, birds and reptiles.

You can hop on and off the bus at the wildlife viewing platforms and spend time observing your favourite animal species, including Giraffes, Elephants, Lions, Cheetahs, Rhinos, Chimpanzees, and more. Additionally, you can enhance your visit by attending Daily Keeper Presentations and booking a range of intimate behind-the-scenes animal experiences.

Later today you may choose to indulge in the luxurious day spa, laze by the two stunning pool areas or enjoy world-class dining at the onsite restaurant at Monarto Safari Resort. (B)

DAY 6 – FAREWELL
Today, your wild Monarto Safari Stay comes to an end. After breakfast, check out of your accommodation and transfer by private vehicle to your choice of the Adelaide Airport or Adelaide CBD Hotel. (B)