

2019-2020

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Wangi Falls

Outback Safari

11 DAYS **AYERS ROCK → DARWIN**

NUAD



Uluru sunrise

Mindil Beach Sunset Market

Yellow Water Billabong Cruise

Uluru • Kings Canyon • Alice Springs • Tennant Creek • Katherine • Jabiru • Darwin

Experience quintessential Northern Territory landscapes on a thrilling road-trip from Uluru to Darwin. The grandeur of Uluru is unforgettable, and the opportunity to learn about the traditions of the local Indigenous people adds depth to your encounter. Travelling the Stuart Highway, you'll witness the transition from desert reds to the rocky escarpments and lush greens of the tropical north.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the sacred sites and rock art of Uluru (Ayers Rock)
- Sparkling wine at the inspiring Uluru sunset
- Explore the 36 mystical domes of Kata Tjuta (the Olgas)
- Climb Kings Canyon
- Learn about Aboriginal culture and native wildlife at Alice Springs Desert Park
- Dine with Falzon family at Earth Sanctuary
- Visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service
- Discover Karlu Karlu (Devils Marbles)
- Soak and relax at Mataranka Thermal Springs
- Cruise on Katherine Gorge and discover rock art
- Spot wildlife on the Yellow Water Billabong
- View the rock art galleries of Ubirr in Kakadu
- Swim beneath Litchfield's Wangi Falls
- Darwin Harbour sunset dinner cruise
- Included Choice Experiences in Darwin

Day 1 Welcome to Uluru

On arrival at Ayers Rock Resort you'll meet your Travel Director and travelling companions. Drive the short distance to dual World Heritage listed Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park, where sparkling wine is served at a Welcome Reception as you watch the sun set over Australia's most renowned natural landmark. Witness the phenomenon of the changing colours on the massive sandstone monolith before returning to the comfort of your hotel for the night. **Hotel: Desert Gardens Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights.**

Day 2 Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta

Rise early to experience a majestic Red Centre sunrise while sipping a warming cup of tea or coffee. After a tour of the base of Uluru, you may like to take either a self-guided walk around its 11km perimeter, or a shorter guided walk to Mutitjulu Waterhole. Your Travel Director will explain the significance of the ancient Aboriginal rock paintings you'll encounter and the culture of the traditional owners, the Anangu people. This afternoon's journey takes you to superb Kata Tjuta, a series of 36 magnificent domes of orange-hued sedimentary rock, where you can toast the magnificent sunset with a glass of sparkling wine. **B**

Day 3 Uluru – Kings Canyon

Awe-inspiring Kings Canyon is your destination today. Stop for a lunch break at Kings Creek Station, the largest exporter of wild camels in Australia, and hear the intriguing story of owners Ian and Lynn Conway and their dedication to Aboriginal children in the region's remote communities. Continue to Kings Canyon, a spectacular natural formation whose sheer sandstone walls soar to a height of over 100 metres. A 6km 'rim walk' around the canyon will reward you with marvellous views of Watarrka National Park. An easier walk along the canyon's boulder strewn creek bed is another option. **Hotel: Kings Canyon Resort. B DW**

Day 4 Kings Canyon – Alice Springs

Travelling past vast cattle properties today, you'll develop a true appreciation of the enormous magnitude of the Australian outback. On arrival in Alice Springs, visit the historic Telegraph Station established in 1872, and drive to Anzac Hill for panoramic views over 'The Alice'. **Hotel: Mercure Alice Springs Resort, 2 nights. B**

Day 5 Alice Springs

After breakfast this morning, join an Aboriginal guide to gain an insight into the culture and traditions of the local Arrernte people at the Alice Springs

Desert Park. Later, at the headquarters of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, you'll learn how this iconic facility provides emergency medical assistance in the outback. This evening, join the Falzon family for a Be My Guest home-cooked barbecue dinner at Earth Sanctuary World Nature Centre, and later listen as they speak of their passion for local ecology, astronomy and culture. **B BG**

Day 6 Alice Springs – Tennant Creek

Before leaving Alice Springs this morning, visit the School of the Air to witness a classroom lesson broadcast over 1.3 million square kilometres to children living in remote locations. Then travel north, stopping to visit Karlu Karlu, an intriguing group of precariously-balanced granite boulders. Later, settle into your accommodation at the former gold-mining town of Tennant Creek. **Hotel: Bluestone Motor Inn, Tennant Creek. B DW**

Day 7 Tennant Creek – Katherine

Travel further north, visiting the quirky Daly Waters Pub before continuing to Mataranka, where a swim in the warm, crystal-clear waters of the thermal springs is a must-do. Tonight is spent in Katherine. **Hotel: Paraway Motel, Katherine. B DW**

Day 8 Katherine – Kakadu

This morning travel to Nitmiluk National Park, where a tranquil cruise along the spectacular Katherine Gorge will allow you to sense the spirituality of the land. Catch glimpses of the resident freshwater crocodiles and learn about the history and culture of the local traditional owners, the Jawoyn people. Then, travel deep into Kakadu for a cruise on the famous Yellow Water Billabong, famed for its stunning variety of birdlife including sea eagles, broilgas and tiny, brilliantly-hued kingfishers. You'll

also see estuarine crocodiles basking on the sandy banks. **Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, Jabiru. B DW**

Day 9 Kakadu – Darwin Included Choice

Visit fascinating Ubirr with its superb Aboriginal rock art dating back over 20,000 years. Then, climb to the top of the rocky outcrop for majestic views over the floodplains and escarpment country. This afternoon in Darwin, choose one from a range of Included Choice sightseeing experiences. Visit the colourful Mindil Beach Sunset Market where we'll treat you to dinner, visit Crocosaurus Cove at your leisure, or perhaps sit back and relax under the stars at Darwin's famous Deckchair Cinema, run by the Darwin Film Society during the Dry. **Hotel: Mantra on the Esplanade, Darwin, 2 nights. B**

Day 10 Litchfield National Park

Travel to Litchfield National Park, pausing to examine the amazing termite mounds that dot the landscape. Then continue to Florence Falls, a double plunge waterfall leading to a popular swimming hole. Venture on to Wangi Falls for the opportunity to swim in the large waterhole before heading back to Darwin. This evening, join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Darwin Harbour Farewell Dinner Cruise. **B FD**

Day 11 Farewell from Darwin

Say farewell to your fellow travellers when your holiday comes to an end this morning after breakfast. **B**

Kings Canyon

Alice Springs

Katherine Gorge

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