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Litchfield Termite Mounds

# Kakadu's Ancient Secrets

5 DAYS | DARWIN → DARWIN | MNDD



Darwin • Litchfield National Park • Mary River • Kakadu • Gunlom Falls • Katherine Gorge

Venture to Australia's Top End, discovering the untamed wilderness of Kakadu, an ancient landscape of billabongs, gorges and hidden canyons teeming with spectacular wildlife. Embark on an Inspiring Journey to the haunt of the Lightning Man, Aboriginal clans and Kakadu's endless floodplains.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Discover

- World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park
- Litchfield National Park's many wonderful waterfalls
- Uncover the Mary River on a safari cruise

### Explore

- Climb Nourlangie for spectacular views over Kakadu National Park
- Get off road on the Marrakai 4WD track

### Immerse

- Immerse yourself in WWII history at Adelaide River War Cemetery
- Learn about rock art at Ubirr
- Enjoy an exclusive Aboriginal cultural experience

### Relax

- Swim at Gunlom Falls overlooking Kakadu
- Stay in luxury accommodation at Cicada Lodge and Wildman Wilderness Lodge
- Take a refreshing dip at Wangi Falls



As this Inspiring Journey departs early morning, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night at Mantra on the Esplanade, Darwin.

### Day 1 Darwin – Mary River

Begin your epic adventure in the cosmopolitan city of Darwin, where you'll board your luxury 4WD vehicle in the company of your local Journey Director. Your exploration of the Top End's natural treasures begins in Litchfield National Park. Hear how the local Aboriginal people's ancestral spirits have shaped the landscape, then embark on a cross-country journey along the rugged Marrakai Track (seasonally accessible). Late-afternoon you'll arrive at Wildman Wilderness Lodge, where you'll stay in private permanent safari tents. Situated in the Mary River Wetlands and renowned for its incredible wildlife, the property seamlessly combines comfort and chic with the beauty

of the surrounding landscape. Join your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception with drinks and canapés, as the sun sets over the floodplains, and after dinner maybe sit back with a nightcap by the fire pit. Hotel: Wildman Wilderness Lodge, Mary River. L DW

### Day 2 Mary River – Kakadu

Wake up with the wildlife of Mary River and drive to Corroboree Billabong, where you'll embark on a cruise with a local guide to explore its floodplains and spot the creatures that find sanctuary in its lotus-covered waters. Then journey into the tropical depths of iconic Kakadu National Park, stopping at Bowali Visitor Centre. As evening approaches, prepare for a sunset walk to experience the stunning rock art galleries of Ubirr. Perched atop Nadab Lookout, watch the sun dip into the lush Kakadu floodplains. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, Jabiru. B L DW

### Day 3 Kakadu – Katherine

Enjoy a leisurely start to your day or take to the skies on an optional experience early morning scenic flight over Kakadu. At Nourlangie, marvel at the ancient Dreamtime art of the Bininj and Munguy people, that is said to span 20,000 years. Continue cross-country to Gunlom Falls, where a hike to the top of the cascade is rewarded with a refreshing dip in the crystal-clear plunge pool. Enjoy lunch in the shade of rustling gums trees. Your accommodation tonight is at a five-star eco-lodge in rugged Nitmiluk National Park. Hotel: Cicada Lodge, Nitmiluk National Park, Katherine, 2 nights. B L DW

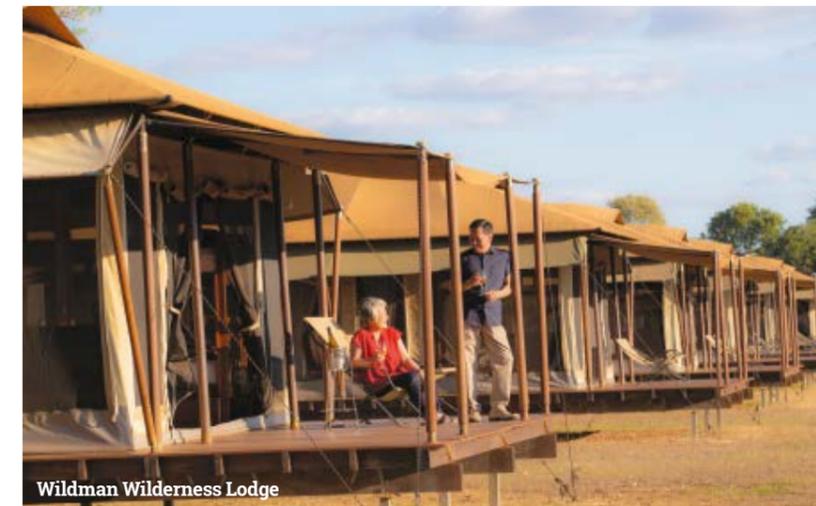
### Day 4 Katherine Gorge

The hypnotic rhythms of the didgeridoo take centre stage this morning on an Aboriginal cultural experience as you meet Manuel Pamkal and share in his passion for the rich traditional culture into which he was born. You'll learn about life in the bush and experience first-hand the fine

art of rarrk painting, using a special reed brush, after which you'll create your very own masterpiece to take home. Later, board a special dinner at Katherine Gorge and learn about the history and culture of the local Jawoyn people. B L LD

### Day 5 Katherine – Farewell from Darwin

A leisurely start to the day could see you relaxing at the lodge or setting off independently on a walk. Later, emerge from the wilderness and journey north along the Stuart Highway, stopping to cool off in the cascading waters of Edith Falls. Continue to the poignant Adelaide River War Cemetery and pay homage to the heroes who gave their lives in the service and defence of Australia. Your Inspiring Journey comes to a close as you return to the tropical Northern Territory capital of Darwin. B L



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