

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL



Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

A U S T R A L I A

2021-2022 INSPIRING JOURNEYS



5-13 day Small Group Journeys

Kakadu's Ancient Secrets

Explore Kakadu, an ancient landscape of billabongs, gorges and hidden canyons teeming with spectacular wildlife. Admire rock art and hear stories of the Dreamtime. Embark on a journey to the haunt of the Lightning Man, Aboriginal clans and the crocodiles that roam Kakadu's floodplains.



© Top Didj Cultural Experience

Be welcomed to Katherine by award-winning Aboriginal artist Manuel Pamkal. Brought up in the bush near the King River, Manuel is a passionate teacher and storyteller ready to share his beloved childhood memories with you.

5 DAYS • Darwin • Mary River

- Kakadu National Park • Katherine Gorge
- Litchfield National Park

🕒 Immerse

Visit the Adelaide River War Cemetery and learn of its moving history, and discover the ancient rock art gallery of Ubirr.

🍷 Indulge

Unwind on an indulgent Katherine Gorge dinner cruise, and dine at the award-winning Cicada Lodge, where the Chef's menu is crafted daily.

🗺️ Explore

Climb Ubirr for spectacular views over Kakadu, spot crocodiles and other wildlife on Yellow Water Billabong.

🌸 Relax

Stay in the heart of Nitmiluk National Park at the eco-friendly Cicada Lodge, where you can enjoy sunset drinks and canapes poolside looking out to the native bushland.

As this journey departs at 7.30am from Mantra on the Esplanade Darwin, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Day 1: Darwin – Mary River

- 🚗 Meet your Journey Director and board your bespoke 4WD vehicle to begin your journey of discovery in the Top End. Travel across the Finniss River to Litchfield National Park. You'll enjoy a swim to cool off at tumbling Florence Falls and you'll also visit Wangi Falls, surrounded by tropical monsoon rainforest, and hear about its importance in Aboriginal custom before stopping for lunch. Get ready for a cross-country journey via the unsealed Marrakai Track (seasonally accessible), through cattle stations and back country to the Mary River region. Late-afternoon you'll arrive at Wildman Wilderness Lodge, where you'll stay in private permanent safari tents surrounded by the sounds of the bush. 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. Enjoy a beverage while the sun sets over the floodplains and after dinner maybe sit back with a nightcap by the fire pit.

🏠 Wildman Wilderness Lodge

🍽️ Lunch, dinner with wine

Day 2: Mary River – Kakadu

- 🚶 Wake up to the evocative sounds of the floodplains. Now you'll journey into the tropical depths of Australia's largest National Park, Kakadu. World Heritage and Ramsar listed, as both a cultural and natural sanctuary, it's a national icon. Join your Journey Director on a walk

at Kakadu's stunning Ubirr, where you'll see ancient rock art, and remarkable views over the surrounding wetlands and escarpments from Nadab lookout. After lunch there's a chance to take to the skies on an optional experience scenic flight over Kakadu and Arnhem Land, one of the best ways to appreciate the enormity of this wonderful National Park. It's time now for your **cruise on Yellow Water Billabong**. Keep a look out for a myriad of bird species, spot estuarine crocodiles, beautiful pink and white waterlilies and enjoy the stunning billabong and floodplains system.



Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, Jabiru
Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 3: Kakadu – Nourlangie – Katherine

Visit Nourlangie to admire the ancient Dreamtime art of the Bininj and Munggyu people. Hear from your Journey Director a detailed interpretation of the art and the rich Aboriginal culture as you explore the various outdoor 'galleries', dating back 20,000 years. Continue driving through the ancient lands of Kakadu to the town of Katherine and further on into Nitmiluk National Park. This evening, **indulge in five-star luxury at Cicada Lodge**, a stunning eco-lodge surrounded by nature, where each private balcony opens out to the National Park. Cool off in the pool after the heat of the day, and then experience a glorious sunset.



Cicada Lodge, Nitmiluk National Park, 2 nights
Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine



Day 4: Katherine Gorge

Today meet Manuel Pamkal who will welcome you with a **traditional performance on the didgeridoo**. Manuel was born and raised immersed in his rich traditional Dalabon culture. He'll share with you stories of growing up in the bush and teach you the fine art of rarrk (cross hatch) painting using a special brush from a reed called Julk. Call on the artist within you and paint your own masterpiece to take home! Enjoy lunch back on the deck at Cicada Lodge overlooking the natural surroundings, before time at leisure. This evening, **relax on a Local Dining Experience cruise along Katherine River**. Marvel at the gorges while you spot wildlife such as freshwater crocodile and barramundi, and learn about the history and culture of the local Jawoyn people. Enjoy the peaceful ambiance during the candle-lit three course dinner onboard your boat.



Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience

Day 5: Katherine – Farewell from Darwin

Enjoy a leisurely start to your day or get up early to experience the National Park completely immersed in the mystical morning light. Travel north along the Stuart Highway stopping at Edith Falls along the way for a relaxing dip. Continue to Adelaide River War Cemetery. During WWII, Adelaide River was the headquarters to a large military base and a cemetery was created especially for those who gave their lives in the service and defence of their country. Your Journey concludes on arrival in Darwin.

Breakfast, lunch

Book now

Contact us today for the best prices and services!

EMAIL US

Or phone us

+64 92814481

Departures

Start	End	Start	End
2021		2021	
May 06	May 10	Aug 05	Aug 09
May 13	May 17	Aug 12	Aug 16
May 20	May 24	Aug 19	Aug 23
May 27	May 31	Aug 26	Aug 30
Jun 03	Jun 07	Sep 02	Sep 06
Jun 10	Jun 14	Sep 09	Sep 13
Jun 17	Jun 21	Sep 16	Sep 20
Jun 24	Jun 28	Sep 23	Sep 27
Jul 01	Jul 05	Sep 30	Oct 04
Jul 08	Jul 12	Oct 07	Oct 11
Jul 15	Jul 19		
Jul 22	Jul 26		
Jul 29	Aug 02		

Inclusions

- Small group (22 guests max)
- 11+ Unforgettable experiences
- 13 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation

MNDD: Darwin Return

Flights are not included in holiday price.

Flight Information:

Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Darwin Airport
Day 5 – flights to depart after 8.00pm from Darwin Airport

