



AWAY FOR THE WINTER

Tour Departs: 14 July 2021
Tour Length: 22 Days

TOUR COSTS

Twin/Double per person
NZD\$13,900.00

Single Supplement
NZD\$3,650.00

Australia is a 'big country' but no other region portrays the vastness, the variety and the beauty of the country more so than the Northern Territory and northern Western Australia. It is a land of spectacular contrasts, incredible mountain ranges, waterways teeming with wildlife and waterfalls cascading over towering escarpments. Enjoy river, lake and harbour cruises, breath-taking scenery of the superb flora and fauna. You will experience warm, blue sky days and mild evenings. The contrast of the outback to the Indian Ocean make the regions a 'must see'. The tour itinerary will ensure you have an unbelievably "beaut" Australian holiday. The tour has operated so successfully in its current format for a number of years now but each year we still make little changes to further enhance the total experience.

Highlights include:

- 2-nights Ayers Rock (sightseeing and evening sunset drinks at Uluru)
- 2-nights Alice Springs
- Tennant Creek
- Lunch at Daly Waters Outback Pub
- Mataranka Thermal Springs
- 2-nights Kakadu National Park, including famous Yellow Water billabong cruise
- 3-nights Darwin, including sunset harbour dinner cruise
- Litchfield National Park
- Katherine Gorge Cruise
- Kununurra
- Argyle Diamond Mine
- Halls Creek & Fitzroy Crossing
- 2-nights Broome
- 2 nights Perth

On a tour such as this, with some big distances involved on some of the days, your comfort is an absolute priority. The state-of-the art luxury touring coach, equipped with toilet, will ensure your comfort on the road. The accommodation includes some outstanding hotels and resorts and we have included many meals in the tour cost – so leave the scales at home!!

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DAY TO DAY ITINERARY:

Wednesday 14 July

Home - Sydney

Today, tour members fly to Sydney. On arrival, we transfer to our Sydney Airport hotel for an overnight stay.

Thursday 15 July

Sydney - Ayers Rock

(B,D)

This morning, we return to the airport and fly to Ayers Rock where we are met and transferred to our hotel for a 2 night stay; A leisurely afternoon to relax before we get together for dinner this evening.

Friday 16 July

Ayers Rock

(B,D)

Today, we tour the world famous monolith Uluru (Ayers Rock) which stands 348m high. This world heritage site combines natural wonders with Aboriginal culture. To the west of Uluru, we also visit Kata Tjuta (The Olgas), a massive pile of 36 weathered rock domes estimated to be as old as 500 million years. We have a special evening ahead; we will watch an unforgettable sunset at Uluru over drinks and canapes before we enjoy a buffet dinner under the sparkling outback sky.

Saturday 17 July

Ayers Rock – Alice Springs

(B,D)

Leaving Uluru, we travel through some of the most spectacular desert scenery the outback has to offer. You will be amazed at the sight of Mt Conner, often mistaken for Uluru. For the more adventurous, there is the opportunity for a camel ride at a camel farm. Look for the brilliant colours of the McDonnell Ranges as we approach Alice Springs. This afternoon, we visit Desert Park with its Nocturnal House and Nature theatre before arriving at our hotel for a 2 night stay.

Sunday 18 July

Alice Springs

(B)

Lying in the heart of central Australia, this famous outback town is celebrated for both the natural beauty of the surrounding areas as much as for the extraordinary people who have shaped its history. Today, we tour the sights of "The Alice". Highlights include the Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical reserve, School of the Air and the Flying Doctor Service.

Monday 19 July

Alice Springs – Tennant Creek

(B,D)

We join the Stuart Highway for the journey north to Tennant Creek. Not to be missed, en route are the Devils Marbles, thought to be millions of years old, giant boulders strewn across the landscape, particularly beautiful around sunset. Tennant Creek is the hub of the Barkly Tablelands, a region of vast grassy plains and home to cattle stations the size of some countries.

Tuesday 20 July

Tennant Creek– Katherine

(B,L,D)

We continue our journey north through the Barkly Tablelands and its wide warm blue skies. A compulsory stop is at the outback Daly Waters Pub, made famous for its walls that have an amazing collection of memorabilia. Our 'shout' for lunch! We continue north to Mataranka Thermal Springs where the crystal clear water of the thermal pool is surrounded by lush, tropical forest (take your togs & a towel). Our overnight stop is at Katherine.

Wednesday 21 July

Katherine – Kakadu

(B,L,D)

There is time this morning to visit Katherine Gorge where we enjoy a spectacular cruise. Marvel at the sheer colourful cliff walls while the guide explains the history and geology of the area. After lunch, we leave Katherine and head to Kakadu National Park, 20,000 square kilometres of spectacular scenery and brilliant wildlife. We enjoy a 2 night stay in Kakadu National Park.

Thursday 22 July

Kakadu

(B,L,D)

We have a relaxing morning visiting the Warradjan Cultural Centre, the Nourlangie Rock and Jabiru. We will enjoy lunch before one of our tour highlights, the Yellow Water Billabong Cruise, where we see freshwater crocodiles and the prolific wildlife that abounds in the region. Our cruise quietly immerses us in the wonder and beauty of this wetland habitat.

Friday 23 July

Kakadu – Darwin

(B,L)

This morning, we join the Guluyambi cruise along the spectacular East Alligator River that separates Kakadu from Arnhem Land. We learn about the mythology of this rich Aboriginal homeland and the river's abundant food chain, as well as the methods of hunting and gathering by the local Aboriginal people. We then view the Aboriginal rock art at Ubirr and after stopping for lunch, we continue on to Darwin for a 3 night stay.

Saturday 24 July

Darwin

(B,D)

Darwin is the capital of the Northern Territory and home to a diverse population of over 100,000. Darwin's warm tropical climate and moderating sea breezes mean that an outdoor lifestyle can be enjoyed all year round. We enjoy a morning tour of the city and surroundings. In the evening we join a dinner cruise on the harbour which hopefully presents us with fantastic views of the fiery sunset over the Indian Ocean.

Sunday 25 July

Darwin

(B)

A free day today. Suggestions – explore Darwin city at your own pace on the city 'hop on, hop off buses', or a gentle walk of Darwin's historical and cultural sights, or the delights of the botanic and orchid gardens. A must see is Aqua-scene, right in the heart of the city, where hundreds of fish arrive daily from the ocean at high tide to be fed by hand. Or maybe just spend some time relaxing by the hotel pool.

