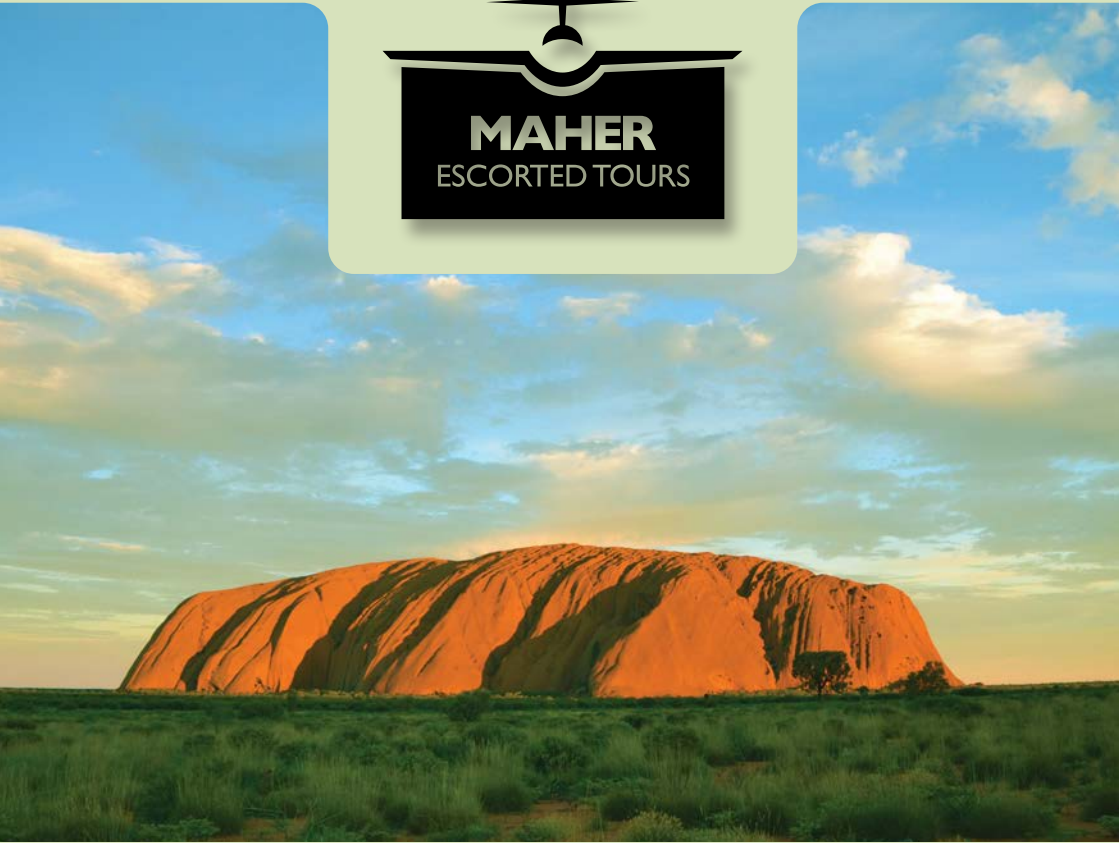




— 2026 —

AWAY FOR THE WINTER

INC. RED CENTRE, NORTHERN TERRITORY
& WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WWW.MAHERTOURS.CO.NZ

AWAY FOR THE WINTER

including Red Centre,
Northern Territory & Western Australia

Tour Length: 24 Days

Tour Departs: 10 July 2026

Tour Ends: 02 August 2026

OVERVIEW:

We are delighted to again present this unique Australian tour in 2026. 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. There will be many daily highlights in your travels and let's not forget the delightful towns and cities such as Alice Springs, Darwin and Broome.

Highlights include

- Ayers Rock 2 nights (sightseeing and evening sunset drinks at the rock)
- Alice Springs 2 nights
- Tennant Creek
- Lunch at "Daly Waters" Outback Pub
- Mataranka Thermal Springs
- 2 days Kakadu National Park, including famous Yellow Water billabong cruise and fabulous wildlife and birdlife
- Darwin 3 nights, including sightseeing and sunset harbour dinner cruise

TOUR COST PER PERSON

Share Twin or Double Room
NZD \$18,500.00

Supplement for Single Room
NZD \$5,500.00

Total Cost for Single Room
NZD \$24,000.00

- Litchfield National Park, Katherine Gorge Cruise
- Lake Argyle and magnificent Ord River wildlife cruise
- Kununurra
- Halls Creek
- Fitzroy Crossing
- Derby & Boab Prison Tree
- Broome 3 nights with sightseeing and dolphin cruise
- Perth 2 nights

On a tour such as this, with some big distances involved on some of the days, your comfort is an absolute priority. The luxury touring coach, equipped with toilet, will ensure your comfort on the road. The accommodation includes a mixture of clean and comfortable outback motels and some outstanding city hotels. We have also included many meals in the tour cost – so leave the scales at home!!



TOUR COSTS

Included:

- Economy Class Air Travel from Auckland
- First Class hotel accommodation in cities
- Comfortable hotel accommodation in outback towns
- Air-conditioned coach transportation
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Prepaid airport/government taxes, security and fuel surcharges (as at 01/09/25)
- Sightseeing & entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- English speaking local hosts/guides in each country
- Tips/gratuities to guides, drivers & staff
- Baggage handling of one (1) piece per person - where possible
- Fully escorted by a Maher Tours Leader

Excluded:

- Any meals and sightseeing tours not specifically mentioned in the itinerary
- Travel insurance – advice and assistance offered
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, room service, laundry, telephone charges etc.

Booking Conditions:

Initial Deposit - Due at time of booking

- NZD \$3,000.00 per person

Second Deposit - Due Monday 12 January 2026

- NZD \$3,000.00 per person

Final Payment - Due Monday 25 May 2026

- Balance

To register for this tour please contact us at
0800 500 518 or tours@mahertours.co.nz



DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

Friday 10 July

Home – Sydney

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

Saturday 11 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.

Sunday 12 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.

Monday 13 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.

Tuesday 14 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.

Wednesday 15 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.

Thursday 16 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 and a towel). Onward to Katherine, where we stay for two nights.

Friday 17 July

Katherine Show & Rodeo (B,D)

The Katherine Show is the largest community event in Katherine. This year it will celebrate its 60th year! The Katherine Show boasts the best of the Katherine people's craft, cooking, photography and so much more. With free family entertainment and unique stalls open over Show weekend, it's a can't miss event!

Saturday 18 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.

Sunday 19 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.

Monday 20 July

Kakadu - Darwin (B,L)

This morning, we join the Guluymambi 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.

Tuesday 21 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



DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

join a dinner cruise on the harbour which hopefully presents us with fantastic views of the fiery sunset over the Indian Ocean.

Wednesday 22 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.

Thursday 23 July

Darwin – Litchfield National Park – Katherine (B,L,D)

We leave Darwin this morning and travel to the tranquil wilderness area of Litchfield National Park, with its picturesque waterfalls, plunge pools and unusual magnetic termite mounds. See beautiful Wangi and Florence Falls before continuing on to Katherine.

Friday 24 July

Katherine – Lake Argyle – Ord River – Kununurra (B,L,D)

A great day – cross the border into Western Australia and journey into the ranges before arriving at Lake Argyle, which holds nearly 20 times more water than Sydney harbour. You will enjoy the exciting cruise on the Ord River to Kununurra – wonderful peaceful

river scenery, followed by the colourful sunset on arrival at our accommodation.

Saturday 25 July

Kununurra (B,D)

We spend the day in Kununurra, with the option to either relax around the resort in the morning, or you may use this opportunity for an optional flight tour to the Bungle Bungles. This afternoon, we visit the Hoochery Rum Distillery for a tour, tasting and afternoon tea.

Sunday 26 July

Kununurra – Halls Creek (B,L,D)

We continue our travels onward to Halls Creek, the home of Western Australia's Gold Rush in the 1800's. We visit the fascinating rock formation of 'china wall' and the ghost town of Old Halls Creek, located 15kms from the current location of the town.

Monday 27 July

Halls Creek – Fitzroy Crossing (B,D)

We depart Halls Creek and travel to Fitzroy Crossing with a stop en-route at Marys Pool for a refreshment break. We arrive at our accommodation at Fitzroy Crossing, a small settlement that services the nearby stations and, as its name implies, the crossing point for the Fitzroy River.

Tuesday 28 July

Fitzroy Crossing – Broome (B)

We visit Derby and see the massive Boab

Prison Tree, used as a prison cell in the early days. We then continue on to Broome, the Kimberley's most southerly town on the magnificent coastline, for a 3-night stay.

Wednesday 29 July

Broome (B,D)

Broome is a town where the outback adjoins the tropical coastline. This morning, we tour the historic features of this former pearling capital. See Chinatown and Streeters Jetty, where pearlers once unloaded their harvest. A visit to Cable Beach to see the sun setting over the Indian Ocean is an unforgettable sight.

Thursday 30 July

Broome (B,D)

Experience the magic of Roebuck Bay as we enjoy a captivating dolphin tour early this morning. We will (hopefully!) see one of Australia's largest populations of elusive snubfin dolphins. This unique experience offers incredible opportunities to witness these playful creatures in their natural habitat. Spot snubfin dolphins or bottlenose dolphins socialising and having fun in the sun. If we are lucky, we may also catch a glimpse of the graceful manta rays or watch turtles bobbing their heads on the water. After our cruise, the rest of the afternoon is at leisure until we meet up for dinner again this evening.

Friday 31 July

Broome – Perth (B)

We bid farewell to Broome and depart on our mid-morning flight to Perth. On arrival early afternoon, we are met and transferred to our central city accommodation for a two-night stay.

Saturday 01 August

Perth (B,D)

Late morning, we take in the wonderful sights that can only be viewed from the Swan River as we cruise the calm waters between Fremantle and Perth. Cruise past key sights including Perth's impressive Bell Tower, the restored Swan Brewery, Kings Park, Royal Perth Yacht Club, the magnificent mansions of Perth overlooking the river and Fremantle's busy inner harbour. Enjoy expert Captain's commentary for the duration of your cruise to Fremantle and back to Barrack Street Jetty. The afternoon is yours to at leisure. Relax before the journey home or indulge in a bit of last-minute shopping. We meet up for one final dinner together this evening.

Sunday 02 August

Perth – Auckland (B)

Back to the airport today in time to join flights back to Auckland. Note the flights travel via Melbourne and we arrive in Auckland just after midnight on 03 August.



FULLY ACCREDITED



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INCLUDING RED CENTRE,
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