

THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITION

Tour Local

23 DAYS from **\$11,940pp**
2nd—24th August 2024

INCLUSIONS

- 22 Nights Quality Accommodation
- B: 22 // L: 10 // D: 21
- Quality Touring Coach with Friendly and Experienced Driver Guide
- Home Pickup & Return* service
- Flights—Economy (Melb, Syd, Bris, Adel)
- Entries to all listed Highlights & Attractions
- Tour Local Travel Pack

Twin/Double: \$11,940pp
Single: \$14,970



BUNDLE & SAVE

Return on the Ghan Expedition

+4 Days saving \$2,580pp

Continue on our Kimberley' Explorer Tour

+10 Days saving \$2,160pp

FROM SOUTH TO NORTH THROUGH THE CENTRE—THIS WIDE BROWN LAND FOR ME

HIGHLIGHTS & ATTRACTIONS

- A Night at the Field of Lights experience at Uluru
- Private Tour of Uluru & Kata Juta—including a Valley of the Winds Walks
- A Day in the Flinders Ranges—incl Blinman and Parachilna Gorges
- Staying Underground at Coober Pedy incl. Day Tour to the breathtaking Breakaways
- Alice Springs Spectacular Outback Bush BBQ Experience
- Yellow River Sunset Cruise in Kakadu
- Alice Springs Touring including Old Telegraph Station; School of the Air; Royal Flying Docs
- Sumptuous Katherine Gorge Dinner Cruise with spectacular backdrop
- Enjoy the splendours of a Darwin Sunset Dinner Cruise
- Relax in the beauty of the Litchfield National Park



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DAILY ITINERARY

DAY 1 : Home to Mildura (L, D)

Today is all about getting you north. We will enjoy the splendours of the Mallee, as we travel past some beautiful Silos, as well as the beautiful Sea Lake. Arriving into Mildura in time for dinner, it's time to rest up and get ready for an amazing journey ahead.

STAY: Mildura—Inlander Resort

DAY 2 : Mildura to Burra (B, L, D)

We skirt the beautiful Murray River today, admiring the changing of scenery as we do so. Enjoy a lunch in the quaint historical museum in Morgan, including time at the museum at the visitor centre.

We will be blessed with some far horizons, as we drive the Goyder line into the old frontier and mining township of Burra, where we will start our time here with a town tour from the coach.

STAY: Burra - Burra Motel

DAY 3 : Burra to Port Augusta (B, L, D)

We spend a bit more time in Burra today, making the most of this fascinating little town. From here, we make our way into the Peterborough, with its interesting and integral rail heritage. Our final stop is at the "crossroads of Australia" - Port Augusta and the Wadlata Outback Centre featuring the award-winning Tunnel of Time, which gives an engaging perspective of the history of Australia, and our early explorers. We unpack for 2 nights here in the beautiful Standpipe motel, serving as our base for our Flinders Ranges touring experience.

STAY: Port Augusta - Standpipe Motel

DAY 4 : Port Augusta: Flinders Ranges (B, L, D)

Leave your bags in the room today, as we head north into the mighty and magnificent Flinders Ranges - ensure your cameras are charged today, plenty of great photo ops await! Marvel at Hawker, where we will visit the Geoff Morgan gallery, which serves as a great introduction to the Flinders Ranges. Enjoy a delicious lunch in the tranquil setting of Blinman, and a drink in the famed Parachilna Hotel—famous for its Roadkill Menu.

STAY: Port Augusta - Standpipe Motel

DAY 5 : Port Augusta to Coober Pedy (B,D)

As we head away from the southern point of the Stuart Highway, the scenery soon changes dramatically in front of our eyes. We stop in at Woomera for morning tea - this historic town was once the testing ground for the Australian military and RAAF and has only been open to the public since 1982. We re-join the Stuart highway, watching as the landscape changes before us, as we arrive at Glendambo Roadhouse for you to fuel up, before making our way into Coober Pedy late in the afternoon. We unpack here, in one of Australia's most unique and remote towns.

STAY: Coober Pedy - Experience Motel

DAY 6 : Coober Pedy (B,D)

Today we jump on board with a local family run tour company in Coober Pedy, who provide us with a great insight into what is one of Australia's most unique towns! We will visit the breathtaking Breakaways; an underground mine, underground church; underground house and working opal fields!

We arrive back in time for you to get your own lunch, before we visit Josephine's Gallery and Kangaroo Orphanage! Dinner tonight is up the hill to the 360 Winch, where a show and relaxing sunset dinner awaits!

STAY: Coober Pedy - Experience Motel

DAY 7 : Coober Pedy to Yulara (B,D)

We have a big drive ahead of us today. An early depart out of Coober Pedy, sees us travelling north once more along the Stuart highway. Once we leave Erldundra, the cross roads of the centre, we make our first turn for the day(!) onto the Lasseters Highway. Our arrival time into Uluru will depend as to how quickly we make it through the outback roads. We anticipate that we will arrive to give you time to view this historic Australian icon just as the sun is setting behind it - allowing you to witness a sight that will stay with you forever.

STAY: Yulara - Voyages Resort , Desert Gardens

DAY 8 : Yulara; Touring (B,D)

This morning we have our private tour of Uluru & Kata-Tjuta National Park, including a visit to the cultural centre. We will get an up close look at Kata Tjuta, and walk in the Valley of the Winds - witnessing the sheer size and splendour of these massive features. From here, its on to Uluru, where we view one of the permanent water holes here, and discover some ancient Aborigine artworks on the walls of the Rock. Dinner tonight is with magnificent views of Uluru at sunset, a three-course bush tucker menu, premium selection of Australian wines and beers, fascinating star talk and a self-guided walk through the Field of Light art installation, your 'A Night at Field of Light' experience is one you will never forget.

STAY: Yulara - Voyages Resort , Desert Gardens

DAY 9 : Yulara - Touring (B, D)

Today is all about you, and for you to choose how you spend it. You might want to simply relax in our beautiful hotel; wander the resort; or do one of the many other activities on offer. Choose from the following, and we'll assist you in booking and acquiring transport around the resort.

Kings Canyon Day Tour (4.30am depart): \$295pp

-incl. Rim Walk (or Valley Walk), Kings Creek Station.

Helicopter Flight Kings Canyon (4 hrs total—2 hr flight):

\$1,100pp

-incl Valley Walk

Helicopter Flight Uluru & Kata Tjuta (25 mins): \$300pp

Helicopter Flight Uluru Only (15 mins): \$200pp

Camel Ride (Day): \$95pp

Camel Ride (Sunset/Sunrise): \$155pp

Wintjiri Wiru Experience: \$185pp

STAY: Yulara - Voyages Resort , Desert Gardens

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DAY 10 : Yulara to Alice Springs (B, D)

We leave the amazing Uluru-Kata Tjuta national park behind us today, and continue our journey northward.

We will visit a working outback station for a morning tea and unique tour, gaining insight into the life of an outback farmer.

We will arrive into Alice late afternoon and with time permitting, we will head up ANZAC Hill to take in the magnificent view over the town and taking in vistas east and west including the mighty MacDonnell Ranges.

Unpack for 4 nights in our luxurious accommodation here in the centre of Australia - we have some exciting days coming up.

STAY: Alice Springs - Doubletree Hilton Resort

DAY 11 : Alice Springs- Touring (B, L, D)

We start today by getting a real feel for the outback, journeying out to Desert Park in time for the fabulous native bird show.

Take some time to walk this fascinating park, taking in the native flora and fauna around every bend. Next up we journey out to Simpsons Gap—an awe inspiring natural rock formation here in Alice, symbolic of the Red Centre.

For lunch, we are back into town and out to the Old Telegraph Station, where we are given a guided tour of the place that “started it all”. Immerse yourself in the history of this beautiful part of Alice, and enjoy a lunch here under the ghost gums.

We then finish off our day visit the School of the Air, where we are given an amazing insight into schooling in Outback Aus. Before we finish with the Royal Flying Doctors, a story that we may all have heard of, but few comprehend the extend of this amazing organisation.

STAY: Alice Springs - Doubletree Hilton Resort

DAY 12 : Alice Springs (B, L, D)

We make the drive out along Larapinta Drive today, exploring some of the picturesque natural settings that befall us, as the magnificent West MacDonnell Ranges stretch out along side us. Arriving into Stanley Chasm, in time for some morning tea, and the short wander into the Chasm itself. Be amazed as you walk right through this beautiful piece of Australian scenery, renowned for its red rocks, blue skies, and white ghost gums.

After this, we continue further west, arriving into the remote township of Hermannsburg and it’s historic precinct.

Learn all about life in the early days of Alice’s history our talk & tour, before enjoying a delicious lunch made on site. Overlooking the Finke River. We finish our time in Alice by partaking in the spectacle that is the Outback BBQ—enjoy the scenic surroundings, as you are transported back to the ways of old, and enjoy a delicious gourmet BBQ Dinner

DAY 13 : Alice Springs to Tennant Creek (B, L, D)

A bit of a slow start to the day, but as we leave Alice, it’s onwards and upwards, further up the Stuart highway. We make our way into Ti Ti, and enjoy a nice morning tea at (arguably) the most central town in all of Australia. This looks out over Central Mount Stuart – the location where John Stuart planted the British flag over 160 years ago. We continue on, arriving at the Devil’s Marbles, a true sight to behold, and a must for anyone journeying along this road. We enjoy our packed lunch here, and a bit of time to become acquainted with a good few rocks. It’s a late arrival into Tennant Creek tonight, but you’ll definitely get a good feel for this remote township.

STAY: Tennant Creek - Safari Lodge

DAY 14 : Tennant Creek to Daly Waters (B,D)

It’s a gentle departure today, as we farewell Tennant Creek and continue further north. We will make a few stops along the way, allowing you time to get some lunch and get more acquainted with the territory as we travel. This afternoon we arrive into a special place - Daly Waters. It’s like stepping into another world here. There’s a pub...and that’s about it in terms of buildings, but that doesn’t mean there isn’t plenty to see and do! You’d be hard pressed to find a place with a better atmosphere than this. Enjoy a drink as you explore this unique town, before settling in for a true-blue Aussie pub style dinner, complete with live music, good food, and plenty of great people to share it with

STAY: Daly Waters - Daly Waters Pub

DAY 15 : Daly Waters to Katherine (B,D)

We bid farewell to Tim, and the other local inhabitants of Daly Waters, and journey into the tropics of the Northern Territory. We arrive into Mataranka, our first and pretty much only stop for today. This is the place Stuart referred to as “simply magnificent”, and we’ll get to see why. Enjoy a delicious lunch at the Mataranka Homestead, and then for those willing, you can take a dip in the Mataranka Thermal Pools - which are regarded as being some of the best in the world! Arriving into Katherine in the early afternoon, our first stop here is at Top Didj, for our amazing and immersive Aboriginal experience—where you’ll even get to try your hand at some traditional Aboriginal art.

STAY: Katherine - Knott Crossing Resort

DAY 16 : Katherine (B, L, D)

Our first visit today is to the Katherine Outback Experience, where John Curtin and his team (mainly a large heard of animals) entertain us with some classic Aussie entertainment, horse riding, dog work, and guitar strumming, and then treat us with some good ol’ bush tucker! You’ll have a bit of time to relax, with the option to head out to the Katherine Hot Springs. As this afternoon we head out to the Katherine Gorge, where our cruise vessel, and evening on the water awaits. Discover the beautiful and mystifying Nitmiluk Gorge, complete with commentary, on our two gorge cruise, before indulging in an absolute breathtaking dinner on the water.

STAY: Katherine - Knott Crossing Resort



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DAY 17 : Katherine to Yellow Waters, Kakadu (B,L,D)

We set our sites on the Never Never today, entering Kakadu National Park, and embracing our wild side (just slightly). We make the slight detour into Edith Falls to begin with—bring your bathers if you wish, before arriving into historic Pine Creek for lunch and a bit of a town tour.

We arrive into Cooina Lodge, where we will be staying the night, and visit the Warradjan Aboriginal Centre—learning about the first nations people of this area.

That evening we take to the water on the Yellow Water Sunset cruise, where you'll see birdlife and other animals (crocs!), and experience a tranquillity not felt anywhere else.

STAY: Kakadu—Cooina Lodge

DAY 18 : Yellow Waters to Jabiru, Kakadu (B,L,D)

Today is all about exploring and experiencing this ancient and majestic land. We head out to the Nawurlandja area, as a local guide escorts us around beautiful native scenery, with first nations rock painting dating back 1,000s of years. Take the short walk up one of the escarpments, and be blessed with some absolutely breathtaking views. We arrive into Jabiru in time for lunch, where you'll have some time to rest and relax in our beautiful crocodile resort.

Optional: Kakadu Scenic 1 Hour Flight at Sunset +\$250pp

Optional: Kakadu Scenic 30 Minute Flight +\$150pp

STAY: Kakadu—Crocodile Hotel

DAY 19 : Kakadu to Darwin (B, L, D)

With a bit of a sleep in, we depart Kakadu today. For lunch today we stop in at the Corrobboree Tavern, where you'll have a chance to soak in this last bit of Kakadu. We will make a few stops along the way, but today is mainly about getting you into Darwin, where we unpack for 4 nights, ready to relax, unwind, and experience all this tropical city has to offer

STAY: Darwin - Vibe Waterfront

DAY 20 : Darwin (B,D)

A fascinating and educational morning awaits us today.

We start off with a visit to the Defence of Darwin Military Museum, which houses an array of weaponry from (what seems like) a bygone era. Make sure you watch the video on display here - truly something else.

From here, we stop in at the Darwin Botanic Gardens, where you'll be able to explore these garden tropics, full of delight around every corner. Its back to the hotel after this, where you'll have a chance to relax and freshen up, before we pay visit to the Bombing of Darwin attraction at the Royal Flying Doctor Service Facility. View virtual reality experiences and holographs in displays of cutting edge technology. Tonight we finish our stay in Darwin on a high note as we remain at Stokes Wharf to join our sunset dinner Cruise in Darwin harbour.

STAY: Darwin - Vibe Waterfront

DAY 21 : Darwin (B, D)

Today is all about you—and for you to do as you please. Relax at our amazing hotel; meander along the waterfront; swim in the beach right along side our hotel; browse through Darwins amazing shopping precinct—its up to you!

This afternoon we are out to the Mindil Markets, where you have some time to shop at these various and unique markets; indulge in the many foods and cuisines that line it's road, and watch the sun drop on the famed Mindil Beach.

STAY: Darwin - Vibe Waterfront

DAY 22 : Darwin: Litchfield (B, L, D)

Our first stop this morning is at the Adelaide River Jumping Croc Cruise—where your nerves will be put to the test as 5+meter crocs swim up to, and jump right along side our boat. A thrill to be sure...keep those hands inside the boat please.

From here, we head out to the beautiful Litchfield National Park, which is one of the Territory's newest parks and has 146,000 of largely untouched hectares. Entering Litchfield National Park, we will come across countless termite mounds. You will have the opportunity to take many interesting photos, particularly a group of magnetic termite mounds, which resemble giant tombstones in a graveyard. Our afternoon is spent at the glorious Wangi Falls, where you can take a short walk and be rewarded with spectacular views of the falls. Wangi Falls, is a serene crystal clear pool, where you can relax and enjoy a swim. You may also want to do some birdwatching. We return to Darwin in the early evening for a casual dinner.

STAY: Darwin - Vibe Waterfront

DAY 23 : Darwin to Home (B, L)

Alas, all good things must come to an end!

We make our way to Darwin Airport, where you will leave the comforts of our bus behind, and discover the comforts of flying once more.

What a journey we have shared! We are sure that you'll go home with plenty of great new memories, new friends made along the way, and a rediscovered passion for travelling through our beautiful country. We'll get you back safely home, finishing off your tour in comfort.

We'll see you down the road again soon!



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Payment Policy

Your non-refundable **\$500pp DEPOSIT** is required to secure your booking.

Your **FULL PAYMENT** is required 2 months (60 days) prior to our departure date.

Payment Methods

REFERENCE NUMBER : *Unique to you, this will be emailed to you at the time of your booking.*

CREDIT /DEBIT CARD:

Go online **OR** Contact our office (min. 1.5% surcharge applies)
Please ensure you put the reference number provided to you.

DIRECT DEPOSIT:

Westpac: Tour Local
BSB: 033-636 Acc: 238103
Please ensure you put the reference number provided to you.

AT A WESTPAC BRANCH: *contact our office for your unique identifier number*

Refunds & Cancellations

Should you cancel the tour, the following conditions will apply

91+ Days: Deposit is fully transferable*
61-90 Days: Forfeiture of deposit*
0-60 Days: Full Forfeiture of fare
*less any unclaimable bookings already made on your behalf (air, rail, cruise etc)

Tour Local HIGHLY recommends Travel Insurance

JOHNSKI PTY LTD T/A
TOUR LOCAL : ABN: 22 131 320 655

Why Tour with Tour Local?

- We are a proud family owned & operated company, who have been providing quality tours around Australia for over 15 years now.
- Once you are out on the road with us rest assured that you will be well looked after; memorable and enjoyable experiences are our guarantee.
- If we can do anything for you in the lead up to your departure day, please just let us know - we are always here to help.
- Our tours are designed for ages of 50+ and we take this into consideration when planning all aspects of our day to day activities.

To Make a Booking:

- Please head online to www.tourlocal.com.au and book under your desired tour - this will send you an automatic confirmation of your booking (secure payments can be made here too) **OR**
- Contact our office during operating hours and we will gladly assist you in making your booking

Home Pickup & Return Service:

- The perfect way to start (and finish) your next amazing holiday with us! This service applies to ALL tours of 3 nights or more, and if you live within Melbourne; South East Suburbs; Gippsland; Mornington Peninsula
- Other pickups by prior arrangement incl. Airport/train station/Hotel/ or a central location - we are here to help, please just ask.

Accessibility and Room Requirements

- Although our tours are designed and catered for a senior demographic, and every effort is made on our part to secure ground level rooms with walk-in-showers, there will be times when we are unable to get all rooms to fulfil this criteria.
- If you require a disabled access room (Ground Floor and Walk in Shower) please make us aware of this at the time of booking.
No guarantees can be made if we are made aware of this after the fact.

Conditions of Travel

- Our tours are designed to be easy going and relaxing, and we will never force you to do anything beyond your capabilities.
All we ask is that you be able to navigate coach steps unassisted, and be able to carry (wheel) your own luggage.
- All bookings and payments are made in accordance with our Terms and Conditions of Travel. By booking on this tour, it is understood that you have read to and agreed with our Terms & Conditions. Please contact our office to obtain a copy.

ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT WARNING
DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENTS MAY APPLY FOR GROUP BOOKINGS