



Spirit of Adventure - 5 day

West MacDonnell Ranges - day 1 LR

Today we venture west to experience the magnificence and grandeur of the vast West MacDonnell Ranges. It is a day of panoramic mountain scenery, tranquil waterholes, and rocky gorges. Our tour will take us to Simpson's Gap, an area that is home to the local species of Black footed Rock Wallaby. Then on to the breathtaking Standley Chasm, a cool, shady retreat filled with cycads, ferns and graceful red river gums. We will visit the dry river bed, water hole and rock formations of Ormiston Gorge. There will be time to swim in cool waterholes and explore walking trails, with your guide on hand. A stop at the Ochre Pits where a rare palette of coloured ochre lies exposed in a dry creek bed, offering a fascinating insight into a source of the natural pigments that feature in Aboriginal culture and art. The grave of Flying Doctor pioneer Rev John Flynn provides a poignant reminder of the remoteness of Central Australia, and the vastness of this land. Returning to Alice in time to relax with a drink or take a swim before dinner.

Overnight: Alice Springs

Palm Valley - day 2 LR

Your Spirit of Adventure experience continues with a day of adventure, exploring the Finke Gorge National Park. On route we will see much of the natural landscape that inspired Albert Namatjira, the first of our indigenous painters. Making our way along the mostly dry bed of the Finke River, you'll marvel at the dramatic evidence of its awesome flood history. Further along the track, the magnificent Amphitheatre at

the Kalarranga lookout provides a stunning opportunity for photography, before finally reaching Palm Valley itself. Experience a walk amongst the rare Red Cabbage Palms, relics of a previous climate many millions of years past. We travel back along the track to the sealed road to visit the Hermannsburg Historic Precinct, founded by Lutheran missionaries in 1877, and birthplace of watercolour painting in the region. Returning to Alice Springs in the glow of the late afternoon sun.

Overnight: Alice Springs

Alice Springs to Kings Canyon - day 3 LR

Leaving the Alice, main highways and settlements behind, we travel through mountain valleys to the Wallace Rockhole aboriginal community. Here experience a rock art and culture tour with a local guide. Visit the gallery, which provides an opportunity to purchase a variety of local art. The adventure continues on the track into the Gosse Bluff comet impact crater. Not just an astro-geological wonder, but a chance for a leisurely stroll to admire the towering crater walls and dramatic views. Returning to the dirt road traversing the Mereenie Wilderness Area, where mountain valleys give way to open plains, we arrive at the Kings Canyon Resort in the late afternoon. Optional *Sounds of Firelight Dinner*.

Overnight: Kings Canyon Resort

Kings Canyon to Uluru - day 4 LR

We begin our day with an exploration of the majestic Kings Canyon, with a choice of

activities. The energetic will find the hike around the Canyon rim a stimulating option, offering panoramic views and in parts steep climbs. Alternatively, experience a gentler stroll through the Canyon floor, amid abundant bird life and ancient cycad plants. Our next stop is Uluru, enroute we transverse expansive landscapes of changing eco systems, vast salt lakes and the mesa-like formation of Mt Connor. Arrive Ayers Rock Resort and check into your hotel. This afternoon we visit the Uluru - Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre, followed by an exploratory tour with your guide, of the base of this unique monolith. The crowning touch to the day is a champagne sunset, featuring fine Australian foods and sparkling wine.

Overnight: Ayers Rock Resort

Kata Tjuta to Alice Springs - day 5 R

An early departure to enjoy the morning solitude and tranquillity as the subtle colours of another day dawning, wash over Kata Tjuta (The Olgas). Your guide will take you for an informative walk around the massive domes of Kata Tjuta, a site of significance to the local Anangu people. Hear of the geology, history and ecological significance. We return to the resort in time for lunch (own expense) and your transfer to the airport for your departure and onward flight to your home port or next adventure. Alternatively you may choose to extend your stay at the Ayers Rock Resort or return to Alice Springs arriving late afternoon approx 6pm.

	Accommodation – Alice Springs, Kings Canyon Resort & Ayers Rock Resort	LOW SEASON		HIGH SEASON	
		Sole Use	Twin Share	Sole Use	Twin Share
First Class	Alice Springs Resort Deluxe, Kings Canyon Resort Deluxe, Sails in the Desert Standard	3224	2604	3409	2696
Superior	Alice Springs Resort Superior, Kings Canyon Resort Standard, Desert Gardens Standard	2932	2458	3112	2547
All prices quoted are valid from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 and are per person in AUD\$ NB: persons travelling alone must pay sole use price		1 Apr 2008 – 30 Jun 2008 1 Dec 2008 – 31 Mar 2009		1 Jul 2008 – 30 Nov 2008	

What's Included: 5 days touring, 4 Lunches, 5 Refreshments, 4 nights Accommodation, entry fees, Departure airport transfer at Ayers Rock, Small Group (min 2), On Board Library, Naturalist Guide, Luxury Air conditioned Expedition Vehicle
Departs: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday 8.00 am

L – Lunch, D – Dinner, R – Refreshments

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