

11 Day 'Heaven 11' Alice Springs to Darwin



Highlights

Kings Canyon
Uluru (Ayers Rock)
Kata Tjuta (the Olgas)
Aboriginal Culture
Coober Pedy
Flinders Ranges
Adelaide
Grampians National Park
Great Ocean Road

Day 1 – Alice Springs to Kata Tjuta & Uluru

Welcome to the Outback! Our first stop is the Outback Camel Farm where you can see the world from the top of a camel if you choose to take a ride (own expense). Next we travel to the Ayers Rock Resort for your first glimpse of Uluru, located in the heart of the Red Centre. After lunch, we explore fascinating Kata Tjuta (the Olgas) on a guided interpretive walk through the Valley of the Winds. We make it back in time for an enthralling desert sunset over Uluru. After dinner, curl up in your swag (Aussie bedroll) and watch the stars come out to play in the darkening sky. (LD)

Day 2 – Uluru to Kings Canyon

Sunrise over Uluru is magical and it's an early start to catch it. While the morning's fresh (and your legs are too) enjoy an unguided walk around the base of Uluru. Gain a further insight into the land, its stories and the people who inhabit it at the Cultural Centre, where you'll also have the opportunity to invest in original arts and crafts by Indigenous artists. We'll have lunch before heading over towards Kings Canyon! We spend the night at our permanent campsite at Kings Canyon Resort. (BLD)

Day 3 - Kings Canyon to Glen Helen

There's a lot to explore at Kings Canyon and we check out the Amphitheatre, Lost City, the lush and ancient Garden of Eden and the sheer outcrops of the North and South walls. After lunch, we travel along the well-known Mereenie Loop Track (also called the Red Centre Way). We pass the 140 million year old meteorite crater, Gosse Bluff as we travel towards Glen Helen where we camp tonight nestled in the western end of the majestic MacDonnell Ranges. (BLD)

Day 4 – Glen Helen to Alice Springs

Discover the spectacular geological features of Ormiston Gorge, before heading to morning tea at the historic Hermannsburg Mission, established by Lutheran Missionaries in the 1870's. There's time to wander around the old church, school house, museum and the art gallery which features many works by renowned Aboriginal artist Albert Namitjira. After a hot 'cuppa' and piece of traditional German cake prepare for some 4WD action! We travel along the ancient track of the Finke River to access the majestic scenery of Palm Valley and Cycad Gorge, exploring what was once a prehistoric inland sea. Keep your eyes out for the Livistonia Mariae, a tropical palm and one of the rarest trees in the world. The spectacular Western MacDonnell Ranges will continue to impress you all the way back to Alice Springs. (BL)

Day 5 – Alice Springs

Enjoy a FREE DAY to relax and explore Alice Springs. Overnight dorm accommodation included (meals at own expense).

Day 6 – Alice Springs to Banka Banka

We pass by the Tropic of Capricorn then stop at the Barrow Creek Pub. Learn about the early struggles of bush telecommunications at Barrow Creek's historic Telegraph Station – it'll make your mobile phone seem like the space age! Precariously balanced on their rocky perch are the Devils Marbles, a site sacred to its traditional owners. Last stop for today is our camp at Banka Banka Cattle Station and if the weather's good, you can take a dip in the pretty waterhole. (LD)

Day 7 – Banka Banka to Katherine Gorge

No visit to the Top End would be complete without a visit to the famed Daly Waters pub, a quintessential outback roadhouse and 'watering hole' for travellers from far and wide. The tiny town is also home to Australia's first international airport (but you wouldn't guess it!). Mataranka lies in the heart of the 'never-never', and you'll feel a million miles from anywhere as you soak in the steamy thermal springs. As the day draws to a close, we reach our overnight camp at stunning Katherine Gorge. (BLD)

Day 8 – Katherine Gorge to Darwin

The gorge is all yours this morning, with a half day to spend canoeing or cruising (at own expense & seasonal) the spectacular waters. Want to see more? Jump aboard a helicopter flight (at own expense) which will take you high above the vast gorge system. We'll head to Darwin after a stop at idyllic Edith Falls. (BL)

Day 9 - Darwin to Mary River

A refreshing start to your day checking out the waterfalls of Litchfield National Park. Travel west into Woolna Country and receive a Cul Cul or unique welcome to country by the traditional owners of the land the Limilngan – Wulna people. Experience the local Aboriginal Culture, cooking your own bush tucker, playing the didgeridoo, basket weaving and spear throwing. To finish the day we head to the spectacular Mary River Wetlands, where birds aren't the only wildlife abundant around here; keep your eyes out for lurking crocodiles on our private river cruise! A secluded campsite at Point Stuart Wilderness Lodge is where we'll stay tonight. (LD)

Day 10 - Mary River to Kakadu

Discover ancient Aboriginal rock art at Ubirr, our first stop this morning. Clamber to the top of a rocky lookout for fabulous views over the Nardab floodplain. Next it's on to Maguk (Barramundi Gorge), where a hike is rewarded with a reviving swim in the plunge pools. Tonight we stay at our permanent camp within Kakadu NP. (BLD)

Day 11 - Kakadu to Darwin

Get ready for some 4WD action today on our way to Jim Jim Falls! Once we get there, we'll hike to the base of the falls before continuing on to Twin Falls. Feel the beauty of the stunning gorge and powerful falls from the National Park operated boat and boardwalk experience. The impressive scenery will continue to amaze you as we journey back to Darwin in the afternoon. (BL)

Bring: Sturdy walking shoes (ankle high), swimming gear, hat & sunscreen, toiletries, warm clothing in winter, water bottle, torch, insect repellent, camera, sleeping bag (can be hired for \$20).

Included: Experienced guides, meals as indicated, accommodation transfers, 7 nights camping including camping fees & equipment, 4 nights dorm accommodation (including pre night).

YOUR TRIP DETAILS

Confirmation Number

Departure Date

Departure Location

Finish Date

Local Payment Amount

THINGS TO REMEMBER

You need to reconfirm your tour on 1800 068 886 at least 48 hours before departure.

Your luggage **MUST** be kept to a maximum of 15kgs, except on tours to Kakadu, where the maximum is 10kgs.

Drink lots of water, wear a hat and sunscreen.

Part of the enjoyment of our tours is participating!

Max People: 24



Tour Code: H11AD

LUGGAGE: Luggage must be kept to a MAXIMUM OF 15 KGS (except KAKADU tours which are MAXIMUM 10KGS) in a backpack or soft overnight bag with a small day pack for easy access to camera, film, sun block etc. It is recommended to plan ahead and arrange to store bulky items at pre-tour accommodation. It may be necessary to freight excess luggage at passenger's expense.

MEALS: Our emphasis is on fresh food wherever possible and our meals are nutritious and varied. We cater for vegetarian and gluten intolerance – please advise at time of booking.

FITNESS & PARTICIPATION: Our tours are active and most require a reasonable level of fitness. Tours graded '3 boots' are only suitable for very fit and active people who enjoy basic bush camping. They are not suitable for children. If you have any doubts about the suitability of your clients please check with our reservations team as we reserve the right to assess suitability to participate at check-in. With the exception of our 'Safari in Style' tour, passengers are expected to help with the preparation of food, washing of dishes and general assistance to the guide as directed.

INSURANCE: Travel insurance is NOT included. We strongly recommend that passengers have their own travel insurance against illness, injury, loss/damage to personal belongings and not being able to travel on the confirmed departure date.

PRICING, FEES AND LEVIES: Rates are quoted in AUD and are correct at time of publication. Prices can be subject to alteration due to extreme external economic pressure. No responsibility is accepted by the Adventure Tours Australia Group for unforeseen omissions or misrepresentation of our code-share partners. Fees and levies are charged in AUD per person and subject to change. Refer to our website for fees and levies on your specific tour.

Fuel Levy: Should the price of diesel increase by more than we regard as a reasonable increase a fuel surcharge levy may be introduced. This will be at a maximum of \$20 per person per tour.

Sleeping Bags: Tours in the Northern Territory and between Darwin and Adelaide require sleeping bags, which can be hired for \$20 per person. Safaris between Exmouth (WA) and Darwin require sleeping bags, which can be hired at \$30 per person. Sleeping bags can be purchased for \$50 each.

CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL: Adventure Tours reserves the right to alter the route or itinerary of any of its tours and arrange alternative carriers to those advertised if necessary. No refunds will be given in these circumstances or in the event of any delay, curtailment or alteration of a trip resulting from any cause including severe weather conditions or mechanical failure. Adventure Tours can't guarantee pick up or drop off times and are not liable for passenger failure to connect with other services or any costs associated in such delays. We accept no responsibility for loss or damage to personal belongings or baggage. The Aboriginal components of our Top End tours are subject to cultural conditions. Participants may be absent due to cultural commitments with little prior notification and Adventure Tours reserves the right to amend the itinerary in these circumstances and no refunds will be given. Components of our trip are weather dependant and we cannot be held liable if they are not available on the day of travel.

LIABILITY: Whilst we make every effort to safeguard our clients, we cannot be held responsible for personal injury or sickness to any customer or damage or loss of property due to events which are beyond our control. Passengers should note that adventure travel involves a higher than normal risk and a signed release will be required from all participants before tour departure. We also take no responsibility for any act of neglect by any company whose services are used as part of our packages including but not limited to activity and accommodation providers.

PASSENGER NUMBERS: A minimum number of passengers is required to operate each tour. It may therefore be necessary to cancel a scheduled departure and to offer an alternative or full refund for that tour.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellation of a booking or part thereof may incur fees, see our website for more details. Once travel has commenced, no refunds will be made for any unused services and clients will be responsible for their travel arrangements from that point onward.