

RED CENTRE SECRETS

THE GHAN

DEPARTURE TUESDAY

Home to staggering natural wonders and rich in history, your unique itinerary will see you experience the impressive landforms of the Red Centre, learn the Dreamtime stories of the local Aboriginal people, and marvel at the changing colours of Uluru as the sun sets. Complete your experience with a rail journey from Alice Springs to Darwin aboard The Ghan.

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights accommodation in Alice Springs including breakfast daily
- 4 days/3 nights Kata Tjuta, Uluru and Kings Canyon tour including accommodation and guided touring
- Transfer from Hotel to Alice Springs Rail Terminal
- 2 days/1 night aboard The Ghan, Alice Springs to Darwin, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Excursion in Katherine
- 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sunrise and sunset at Uluru
- Explore the rock formations of Walpa Gorge
- See the beautiful Mutitjulu Waterhole
- Visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre
- Enjoy an Aussie barbecue under the stars
- Climb to the rim of Kings Canyon

DAY 1 ARRIVE ALICE SPRINGS

After your arrival in Alice Springs, check in to your accommodation and enjoy time exploring this famous remote town.

OVERNIGHT: DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs

DAY 2 ALICE SPRINGS TO KATA TJUTA

This morning you'll depart Alice Springs and travel south through the MacDonnell and James Ranges. You will visit a camel farm and marvel at the majestic Attila (Mount Conner) before arriving at Ayers Rock Resort. Enjoy the afternoon experiencing the natural wonders, unique flora and native wildlife of the area, as you travel to the mystical 36 domes of Kata Tjuta. An unforgettable day fades to dusk as you enjoy a glass of sparkling wine under an equally sparkling outback sky.

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights Voyages Sails in the Desert Hotel (B)

DAY 3 ULURU AND KATA TJUTA

Watch the glistening sunrise over Uluru as you begin day four of your adventure. Your connection with the environment continues as you explore Kata Tjuta and Walpa Gorge, uncovering its unusual rock formations, before touring the base of Uluru. You'll see ancient rock art and get to know the rich Aboriginal and European history of the area. Watch as day turns to night with sunset over Uluru, finishing with an Aussie barbecue under the stars. (D)

DAY 4 ULURU TO KINGS CANYON

This morning take some time to relax in the Red Centre or explore the Resort. See artists at work, learn more about the region's history, geology, flora and fauna in the museum, enjoy the smells and sights of native gardens, or a bush yarn at the Circle of Sand. In the afternoon join your tour to Kings Canyon.

OVERNIGHT: Kings Canyon Lodge

DAY 5 KINGS CANYON TO ALICE SPRINGS

Today, experience the majestic views over the Watarrka National Park as you challenge your senses on a rim walk of Kings Canyon. But don't worry, if heights aren't for you there is an alternative (and easier) walk across the boulder-strewn canyon floor. Then it's a well-earned rest after you head back to Alice Springs.

OVERNIGHT: 2 nights DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs

DAY 6 LEISURE DAY

Explore Alice Springs at your own pace. This small outback town is rich in history. Enjoy its many walking trails, which are well signed posted and provide insightful facts on the region. No trip to Alice is complete without experiencing a camel ride for yourself – these gracious animals and their Afghan handlers played a vital role in outback history, their service reflected in The Ghan's emblem. (B)

WE RECOMMEND

Camel Riding at Pyndan Camel Tracks \$88 per person.

For a true outback experience, hop aboard a camel for a relaxing ride through Wine Gums Station. Enjoy the one-of-a-kind perspective as you view the beautiful backdrop of the West MacDonnell Ranges.

DAY 7 BOARD THE GHAN IN ALICE SPRINGS

Today you follow in the footsteps of history as you board The Ghan on your way to Darwin.

Spend the morning at leisure ahead of your afternoon transfer to the Alice Springs Rail Terminal. Before long you'll be mingling with fellow travellers in the Outback Explorer Lounge and preparing for a sumptuous three-course dinner accompanied by fine wine.

OVERNIGHT: The Ghan (B,D)

DAY 8 THE GHAN, KATHERINE AND DARWIN

Just after breakfast, The Ghan arrives at the place where the 'outback meets the tropics'. Katherine offers a range of fascinating Off Train Excursions to enjoy with the magnificent Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge one of the highlights of your journey. After an exhilarating cruise and ancient rock art discovery, you will arrive in Darwin. (B,L)