

# TASTE OF THE TOP END

## THE GHAN

DEPARTURE MONDAY

The rail journey from Alice Springs to Darwin connects you with some incredible landscapes and an Off Train Excursion along the way. From here explore spectacular Litchfield National Park, see the famous jumping crocodiles along with a host of other popular Top End attractions.

### INCLUSIONS

- 2 days/1 nights aboard The Ghan, Alice Springs to Darwin, including all meals, beverages and Off Train Excursion in Katherine
- Transfer from Darwin Rail Terminal to hotel
- 4 nights' accommodation in Darwin including breakfast daily
- 'Charles Darwin' Sunset Dinner Cruise
- Half day Jumping Crocs and Nature Adventure including Jumping Crocodile Cruise and touring
- 1 day Litchfield National Park Waterfalls including lunch and touring
- 5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a full dinner with a breathtaking tropical sunset view on your Darwin Harbour Cruise
- Get close to the prehistoric crocs
- Be impressed by the amazing array of native birdlife
- Visit the Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre
- Enjoy superb views across the Marrakai Plains and the Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve
- Take in the splendour of thundering falls, rainforest pockets and sacred historic sites of Litchfield National Park
- Discover the incredible architecture of the termite mounds
- View the spectacular double waterfalls of Florence Falls
- Marvel at the water cascading down into the deep waterhole at the base of Tolmer Falls
- Swim in the rock pools of Wangi Falls

### DAY 1 BOARD THE GHAN IN ALICE SPRINGS

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

### DAY 2 THE GHAN, KATHERINE AND DARWIN

As you head further north into the tropics, prepare to experience one of the Top End's most impressive natural wonders near Katherine. The stunning Nitmiluk Gorge lies within the massive 292,000 hectares of the Nitmiluk National Park. You'll have the chance to explore it from the water with guided cruise options - an Off Train Excursion you'll never forget. A few hours later, you'll arrive in Darwin for a transfer to your accommodation.

OVERNIGHT: 4 nights Vibe Hotel Darwin Waterfront (B, L)

### DAY 3 LEISURE DAY, DARWIN HARBOUR DINNER CRUISE

Today is yours to explore Darwin at your own pace. Take in a spot of souvenir shopping or simply relax at your accommodation.

This evening, prepare to be amazed by the breathtaking and legendary tropical sunsets from a location like no other, savour the sights and feel the sea breeze as you sail and dine in comfort on a modern and spacious catamaran. Enjoy a sumptuous meal prepared onboard using local produce and fresh seafood. Relax and soak in the splendour of the skies, champagne flute in hand. (B, D)

#### **DAY 4                      JUMPING CROCODILES**

This morning is free for you to explore Darwin at your leisure. Perhaps make your way down to the waterfront and enjoy the tropical Darwin weather. Much of Darwin's action happens along its revitalised waterfront, which is lined with restaurants, shops, sandy lagoons and parklands.

This afternoon, your jumping croc adventure begins. Just 60 kilometres from Darwin lies the Adelaide River, home to more than 1600 crocodiles and the location of the famous Jumping Crocodiles. Travel down the Stuart Highway to the Adelaide River. Cruise the river and thrill as these awesome creatures launch themselves out of the water. The cruise will enable you to see these prehistoric creatures at close range (and from the safety of a boat!). Afterwards, continue to the Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre for views over the Marrakai Plains, and then it's onto Fogg Dam Nature Reserve to see a wetland ecosystem up close. (B)

#### **DAY 5                      LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK**

Litchfield National Park contains several types of typical Top End habitats including lush monsoon forests, termite mounds, unusual rock formations, waterfalls and cascades. First stop of the day is Florence Falls, where you have the opportunity for a scenic and interpretive bush and monsoon vine forest walk. There is also the chance for a swim by making your way down the stairs to the plunge pool below. Travel on to Tolmer Falls for a magnificent view of the water cascading down to the deep waterhole at the base of the falls. To finish the day, you will visit Wangi Falls, with its large crystal-clear pool, another relaxing spot for a swim. A great day for taking many fascinating photos, including the amazing stand of termite mounds. (B, L)

#### **DAY 6                      FAREWELL**

This morning after breakfast, check out of your hotel as your adventure comes to its end leaving with you the memories of the awe-inspiring landscapes and the unique outback experiences that will last you a lifetime. (B)