

OVERLAND ADVENTURE



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August 1
departure

Itinerary:

2009/2010

Tour Code: GOA 16

Introduction: This tour has been operating regularly since 1965 and is truly a Great Australian Adventure icon. Camping out in twin share tents and/or standard budget cabins (no facilities). Meals are prepared by your safari cook. Commentary and information by the tour driver/guide is in Australian English. In addition a language assistance service is offered in French and German by volunteers who also help our crew with camp chores. But remember – the driver/guide is an Aussie who only speaks English so some understanding of English is useful.



IF

- You'd like an adventure holiday
- You're happy to mix with many nationalities
 - You enjoy the outdoors
- You are tolerant, flexible and enjoy life
- You like to walk and try new things
- You are relatively fit and healthy
 - You mix well with all ages

THEN

THIS TOUR IS FOR YOU!

Our new itinerary commences April 2009 with greater emphasis on Aboriginal culture and Australian lifestyle, nature and rugged sunburnt country. Read on...

Day 01: Sat. TO DARWIN

(D) H



Join tour group at 4.30 pm in Darwin - capital of the N.T. and gateway to our rapidly developing north for 2 nights in a hotel. Evening Fish & Chip dinner and sunset cruise on Darwin Harbour.

Day 02: Sun. DARWIN-THE TOP END

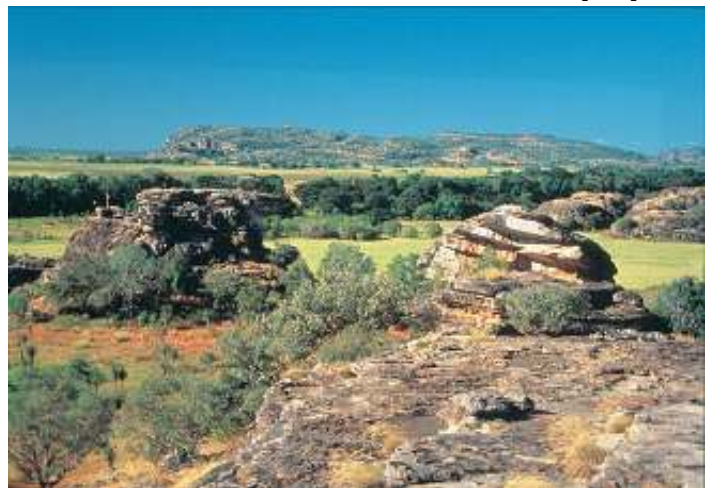
(B) H

Morning and afternoon free to explore or undertake optional touring activities. Maybe this evening we could visit Mindil Market (in season) – noted for its wide varieties of Asian food, art and craft products.

Day 03: Mon. DARWIN SIGHTSEEING & MARY RIVER

(BD) T/C

Free time in Darwin to explore this tropical cosmopolitan capital city or to just relax, lunch by own arrangement. At 1.00 pm depart on brief sightseeing tour of Darwin and commence the journey towards Kakadu visiting Fogg Dam noted for its bird life and the attraction 'Window On The Wetlands'. Overnight stop at Mary River Park – the gateway to Kakadu and a sanctuary for both wetland and woodland flora and fauna.



Day 04: Tue. MARY RIVER TO KAKADU NATIONAL PARK

(BLD) T

Bush walks or an optional morning river cruise before continuing along the Arnhem Highway crossing the South Alligator River. See the Crocodile Motel at the town of Jabiru, HQ of the Ranger Uranium Mine. See Aboriginal cave paintings and visit the Kakadu National Park Headquarters - a wilderness region. Overnight at Cooida in Kakadu – tents for all tonight.

Day 05: Wed. CRUISES

(BLD) T/C

Up early for the natural wonders of Yellow Waters - wildlife cruise on the billabong. Such a variety of birds, crocodiles, attractive vegetation, water-lillies and wildflowers - a photographers delight! After breakfast it's on to Pine Creek, a revitalised gold mining town. Your destination today Katherine Gorge in Nitmiluk National Park. Enjoy an afternoon cruise through the gorge. Overnight Knotts Crossing Resort Camping Park in Kakadu.



Day 06: Thu. THE DEVILS MARBLES SACRED SITE (BLD) T/C

Pass through the settlements of Larrimah, Elliot, Renner Springs and the gold mining town of Tennant Creek. Establish camp at Wauchope. Return to the Devils Marbles

to photograph this unique, natural region at sunset and tonight perhaps meet the locals over a drink at the bar!

Day 07: Fri. TO ALICE SPRINGS**(BLD) T/C**

Journey south along the Stuart Highway passing through several small settlements and cross the Tropic Of Capricorn. As you are still in cattle country you may see the large road trains. In Alice Springs visit the Royal Flying Doctor Base, Standley Chasm and Simpson Gap before settling in to camp at Heavitree Gap Outback Lodge for 2 nights.

Day 08: Sat. EXPLORING THE ALICE (B) T/C

Today is a free day for you to explore 'The Alice'. Walk to the top of Anzac Hill, for a panoramic view of the town and the MacDonnell Ranges; visit the many Art galleries; the John Flynn Memorial Church; Adelaide House – the first Alice Springs Hospital; the Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame; relax in the mall with its many coffee and souvenir shops. We recommend as an option 'The Sounds of Starlight' spellbinding, musical didgeridoo and visual journey through the outback. Evening free.

**Day 09: Sun. DESERT PARK & ABORIGINAL CULTURE****(BLD) T**

A morning visit to the Alice Springs Desert Park – your essential introduction to The Outback that showcases the cultural and natural environment of arid Australia. This afternoon another different experience as we visit Aboriginal homelands for a Cultural Camp Out. Learn to throw a boomerang, discover bush tucker, talk to Arrernte Community members, see a kangaroo cooked in traditional style, enjoy billy tea and damper in campfire atmosphere. Pitch your tent or camp out under the stars in this isolated location on the fringe of the Simpson Desert. This activity subject to weather conditions and road access.

**Day 10: Mon. TO WATARRKA NATIONAL PARK****(BLD) T/C**

Depart bush camp, visit an agricultural desert experimental farm and Jim's Place – the home of the Singing Dingo. At Mount Ebenezer Station view the Aboriginal art gallery, journey to Kings Canyon for a spectacular canyon rim walk.

**Day 11: Tue. TO ULURU KATA TJUTA NP****(BLD) T**

On to Curtin Springs Station to Uluru - Kata Tjuta National Park (Ayers Rock and The Olgas). There will be time today to visit nearby Kata Tjuta. Overnight Ayers Rock Resort Campground – tents for all.

Day 12: Wed. WORLD HERITAGE**(BLD) T**

Up early to travel to Uluru for sunrise photographs. Afterwards visit the National Park Cultural Centre, climb Uluru or visit some of the sacred sites. Optional flights available. Remainder of afternoon free.

Day 13: Thu. OPAL FIELDS – COOBER PEDY

(BLD) D

Head south into South Australia and across the gibber plains to Marla. Tonight you are in Coober Pedy, the world's richest opal fields. A late afternoon guided tour of the town shows you an underground church and house, a disused opal mine - maybe see opals cut and polished and purchase one! Here all spend the night underground in a Coober Pedy dugout - an experience to remember!



Day 14: Fri. FLINDERS RANGES SHEEP STATION STOPOVER

(BLD) T/C

Leaving Coober Pedy pass through Glendambo Sheep Station, see the rocket-launching town of Woomera before reaching Port Augusta at the head of Spencers Gulf. Overnight at Spear Creek Sheep Station - a working property. See a sheep shearing demonstration.

Day 15: Sat. THE BAROSSA VALLEY

(BD) H

Today cross the lower Flinders Ranges and travel into the wine growing areas of S.A. - the Clare and the Barossa Valleys. Time will be made for some wine tasting. On to Adelaide, the state's capital. Overnight in budget hotel accommodation for .



Day 16: Sun. ACROSS VICTORIA

B) -

The final day of your Adventure tour takes you thru the Adelaide Hills and over the Murray River, thru the vast wheat growing areas of South Australia and Victoria. If time permits, detour into the Grampians, see the grandeur of this region and the wildlife that abounds. Arrival in Melbourne is approx. 7.30 pm. Arrival point Spencer St, Melbourne.



Tent Safari Touring: This is a camping style with twin share, dome tents plus 2 nights, twin share hotel accommodation in Darwin; 1 night in Coober Pedy underground dugout and 1 night in twin share hotel accommodation in Adelaide.

Soft Adventure Style: provides for the bulk of accommodation in twin and multi share budget style cabin/lodge often without facilities at the caravan/camping parks. Meals are still eaten with the group in the camping area.

Sectional Journeys: The Overland Adventure Tour is always part of a longer 30-day itinerary "The Great Australian Adventure" which departs Sydney, travels to Cairns across the Territory to Mt Isa and Darwin, where Overland Adventure passengers join. You can join this tour earlier in Sydney Brisbane or Cairns or later in Alice Springs provided your journey is 8 days/7 nights or greater.

The sectional rates for you to plan your own itinerary are - Safari: AU\$180.00 per person per night or Soft Adventure: AU\$220.00 per person per night. This includes visit to such places as The RM Williams Outback Show, Australia Zoo, Fraser Island, the Outer Barrier Reef, Kakadu Wilderness Cruise, Katherine Gorge Cruise, a cultural Camp out and much much more.

Child Fares: based on 1 or 2 children sharing accommodation with parents.

Student/Backpacker Fares: including college and university students or holders of YHA, Nomad, VIP or similar backpacker cards. Up to 25 years of age.

Kanga's Safari Travel Hints: Austour provides useful pre-departure information. Please ensure that you receive this from your agent or Austour before departure. It is most useful and readily downloaded from **Austour Web site: www.austour.com.au**

Remember: This is not a holiday... it's an adventure!

Safari Fares:

Adult: AU\$2950.00 Child: AU\$2100.00

Student/Backpacker card: AU\$2550

P/P, twin share, Single Sup: AU\$520.00

Soft Adventure Fares:

Adult: AU\$3200.00 Child: AU\$1900.00

Student/Backpacker card: \$2750

P/P, twin share, Single Sup: AU\$750.00

TOUR DEPARTURE DATES:

2009: Aug 01*; Sep 05*; Oct 24*; Nov 28*

2010: Jan 16*; Feb 20*; Mar 27*; then monthly dates

Prices and itinerary are valid from 01/04/09 to 31/03/10.

This itinerary must be read in conjunction with Austour's Conditions of Travel. Clients booking this tour do so accepting these conditions that are particularly applicable to travelling in the outback.