

# Suggested Itinerary 15 Day Head North

- Sydney, Ayers Rock, Kings Canyon, Alice Springs, The Ghan, Darwin and Cairns -

## Day 1 - Monday, Arrive Sydney

**Royale Limousines , Sydney** International Airport to City Hotel

After collecting your luggage and clearing customs, please proceed to the Arrivals Hall to meet your Royale Limousines driver. The driver will be wearing a black suit with a blue tie and holding a sign with your name on it.

If for any reason you are unable to locate your driver, please proceed to the Royale Limousines Customer Service Desk which is located in Arrivals Hall B and is open between 6.00am and 10.00pm. Outside of these hours please call (02) 9660 3666.

Soak up **Sydney's** gorgeous harbour, seductive outdoor lifestyle and great natural beauty. Cruise under the Sydney Harbour Bridge or wave at the Opera House as you ride a ferry across the harbour to Manly. Learn to surf at Bondi Beach or swim in the calm waters of Coogee. Lose yourself in the cobblestone cul-de-sacs of The Rocks or in the markets, boutiques, cafes and pubs of Paddington. As well as a world-famous harbour and more than 70 sparkling beaches, Sydney offers fabulous food, festivals and 24/7 fun.



#### Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney

Accommodation in a Superior Room for 3 nights

**Additional Inclusions:** Full Breakfast

Located on the city-side of Darling Harbour, the hotel offers premium accommodation within minutes of the city's most popular sights and attractions. Its central location means that many of the hotel's rooms enjoy views of Darling Harbour and the nearby landmarks such as Cockle Bay, King Street Wharf and the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre. Hotel facilities include a gymnasium and business centre as well as a choice of dining options.



# Day 2 – Tuesday, Sydney

## **Gray Line Australia Sightseeing, Sydney**

Sydney City Tour Tour Code: 281

Inclusions: Hotel pick-up and Coach touring

Sydney Harbour, reputedly one of the most beautiful in world, will not disappoint. And the city that sits around it is one of fine weather, sunshine, glorious ocean beaches with a vibrant big city vibe. This tour is the quintessential introduction to Sydney, making its way around the city (with a stop at Mrs Macquaries Chair for that iconic photograph of the Sydney Harbour Bridge behind the Opera House) before heading out to Bondi Beach via the affluent eastern suburbs. Lots of "wows" on this tour, all those places you have heard so much about with a few surprises as well. Don't leave your camera in the hotel room.

#### Day 3 – Wednesday, Sydney

#### **Gray Line Australia Sightseeing, Sydney**

Blue Mountains with Lunch

Tour Code: 284L

Inclusions: Hotel pick-up, lunch and admission to Featherdale Wildlife Park, Parramatta River

Cruise

A two hour drive west of Sydney, the giant Blue Mountains region is host to endless mountain views and showcases Australia's unique and beautiful flora and fauna. Crisp, clean, mountain top air with distant blue haze horizons overlooking awesome canyons with rainforest carpeting the valley floor. Waterfalls, sleepy hamlets and the rich warm smell of the Australian bush make this a very special place for every visitor. En route visit Featherdale Wildlife Park to meet Australia's local animals, before continuing to the Blue Mountains where your day will include ample time and photo opportunities at The Three Sisters, Scenic World and Leura. Lunch included. Return to the city with a wonderful river cruise (included), passing under the Sydney Harbour Bridge before ending at Circular Quay.

## Day 4 – Thursday, Sydney to Ayers Rock

#### **Royale Limousines, Sydney**

City Hotel to Domestic Airport

Please inform the Hotel Concierge or Front Desk that you are waiting for a Royale Limousines airport transfer and be waiting in the hotel lobby 10 minutes prior to the specified pick-up time.

If for any reason you need to contact Royale Limousines, please call (02) 9660 3666.

Flight at own arrangements.

**Uluru**, the true Aboriginal name for what many people know as **Ayers Rock**, rises from the broad desert plain in the deep centre of Australia and it's one of the country's most recognisable natural icon. The famous "Rock" stands 348 metres high and is located 440 kilometres south-west of Alice Springs in the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Forty kilometres to the west of Uluru is Kata Tjuta, also known as The Olgas. This massive pile of rock domes dates back 500 million years. Both Uluru and Kata Tjuta have great Aboriginal cultural significance for the Anangu traditional landowners. Learn about the local flora and fauna, bush foods and the Aboriginal Dreamtime stories of the area.



#### **AAT Kings Tours, Ayers Rock**

Ayers Rock Airport to Hotel Courtesy Shuttle, Seat in Coach

Transfer from Ayers Rock Airport to Ayers Rock Resort by AAT Kings courtesy coach. Coaches meet all arriving flights.

#### **Desert Gardens Hotel**, Ayers Rock

Accommodation in a Standard Room (will be Garden View Room) for 2 nights

Additional Inclusions: Full Breakfast

A 4 star hotel at Voyages Ayers Rock Resort, set amongst magnificent ghost gums and flowering native shrubs. Centrally located to all resort and touring facilities, the hotel offers a range of accommodation, from shaded poolside rooms to deluxe rooms.

#### Refurbishment Information: Valid 02 November 2015 to 02 May 2016

The property will be under refurbishment from 02 November 2015 to 02 May 2016.

**Internal refurbishment of Standard Rooms:** Room's refurbishment will be completed in three stages in blocks of rooms, limited noise is expected however allowing for inventory control of "buffer blocks" to minimise guest impact. Work will be held from 7.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday and 7.00am to 12.00pm Saturday.

**Redecoration of Reception:** 30 November to 08 December 2015, Monday to Saturday, predominantly outside peak arrival and departure periods. Limited noise and visibility of work are expected however some equipment and tradespeople may be visible.



## Day 5 – Friday, Ayers Rock

#### AAT Kings Tours , Ayers Rock

Uluru Sunrise & Base Tour

Tour Code: Y18

**Inclusions:** Warming cup of tea or coffee and biscuits (cookies).

Rise early this morning to travel to the Uluru sunrise viewing area, Talinguru Nyakunytjaku. Watch the first rays of the sun set the Red Centre alight while enjoying a warming cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. After watching the sunrise join your AAT Kings Driver Guide for a tour around the base of Uluru. Travel by coach to the Mutitjulu Walk where you will be escorted to the beautiful Mutitjulu Waterhole. View Aboriginal rock paintings and learn about the area as your Driver Guide indicates some native flora and explains the Aboriginal and European history of Uluru. Visit the Uluru – Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre, where you can learn about Aboriginal culture and see Aboriginal arts and crafts, before returning to Ayers Rock Resort. Alternatively, you may climb Uluru (conditions permitting). Note: Anangu, Traditional Owners, would prefer that visitors choose not to climb Uluru. The climb may be closed without notice due to weather or cultural reasons. No refunds will be given.

#### **AAT Kings Tours , Ayers Rock**

Kata Tjuta and Uluru Sunset Tour

Tour Code: Y13

Inclusions: Wine and nibbles

Travel to the mystical 36 domes of Kata Tjuta. On the way, stop at a look out for panoramic views the southern side of Kata Tjuta. Continue on before arriving at the base of Walpa Gorge. Spend some time exploring the gorge and the unusual conglomerate rock formations. The walking trail through Walpa Gorge follows the natural creek between two of the tallest domes of Kata Tjuta. In the late afternoon travel to the Uluru sunset viewing area. Witness and photograph the striking colour changes of Uluru at sunset whilst enjoying nibbles and a glass of wine.

## Day 6 – Saturday, Ayers Rock to Kings Canyon

## **AAT Kings Tours , Ayers Rock**

Ayers Rock to Kings Canyon

Tour Code: Y23

Travel by luxury coach through spectacular desert scenery from Ayers Rock Resort to Kings Canyon Resort. Pass through Curtin Springs cattle station before viewing Atils (Mt Conner) from the coach. After turning off the Lasseter Highway and onto the Laritja Road your Driver/ Guide will provide informative commentary about the history of the surrounding cattle stations. After you arrive at Kings Canyon Resort there may be time to view the sunset behind Carmichaels Crag.

Watarrka National Park is best known as the home of **Kings Canyon**, a mighty chasm cleaving the earth to a depth of 270 metres. Located 450 kilometres south west of Alice Springs in the Uluru-Kata Tjuta region of the Northern Territory. The Park encompasses the western end of the George Gill Range and is home to a variety of unique native flora and fauna, including over 600 different plant species. Accommodation can be found within the Park at Kings Canyon Resort and Kings Creek Station.



#### Kings Canyon Resort, Kings Canyon

Accommodation in a Standard Room for 1 nights

**Additional Inclusions:** Full Breakfast

An oasis in the outback, retreat to the luxury of the resort after an active day of hiking through the rugged terrain of Watarrka National Park. The hotel's signature restaurant, Carmichael's Restaurant & Lounge Bar, serves exquisite meals that make the most of Northern Territory produce. Don't miss is the romantic 'Under a Desert Moon' experience - an intimate dinner of fine Australian food and wines under a canopy of stars (seasonal). Stay in a Deluxe Spa Room for a view over the rocky escarpment.

## Day 7 – Sunday, Kings Canyon to Alice Springs

**AAT Kings Tours, Kings Canyon** 

Kings Canyon Climb Tour Code: Y28

Inclusions: Local Kings Canyon guide

Your Guide will escort you on the rocky climb to the rim of Kings Canyon. The views of Watarrka National Park from the top of the canyon are magnificent as are the views downinto the canyon itself. Follow the rim of the canyon stopping to view the canyon Gorge at look-out points. Time permitting, you may choose to descend to the green oasis of the 'Garden of Eden'. The walk may take up to 3 hours and is rocky and steep places. It is for those with a good level of fitness. Alternatively, you may wish to take an easier, shorter walk to explore the boulder strewn canyon floor with our Driver/ Guide. Return to Kings Canyon Resort.

#### **AAT Kings Tours, Kings Canyon**

Kings Canyon to Alice Springs Tour Code: A39

Tour code. A33

Join your luxury coach at the Mobil Service Station. Travel through beautiful desert landscapes from Kings Canyon Resort to Alice Springs. Informative commentary is provided by your Driver/Guide. Stop at roadhouse for the opportunity to purchase afternoon tea (own expense). Take a wander through the Aboriginal Art Gallery to see some locally made craft. Continue on to Alice Springs along the Stuart Highway, as the sun sets in the west over the rugged plains.

Framed by the MacDonnell Ranges and an intense desert landscape, the township of **Alice Springs** is Australia's most famous outback town. Afghan cameleers, flying doctors, outback explorers, a rich cast of characters and the towns' isolation has lead to the creation of an unrivalled community identity and a wealth of interesting events and sights. The desert climate and landscape of 'the Alice' allows for a variety of adventurous activities including quad and mountain-bike riding, trekking along the Larapinta Trail, four-wheel driving, bush camping and swimming in lush waterholes. Alive with culture and Aboriginal art, the pedestrian-only Todd Mall gives a sneak peek into the traditions and stories of the Arrernte people with water colours of desert landscapes and dot paintings of the seasons.



#### **DoubleTree by Hilton Alice Springs , Alice Springs**

Accommodation in a Guest Room for 1 nights

Additional Inclusions: Full Breakfast

Set against the MacDonnell Ranges, guests are offered the unique opportunity of enjoying a resort style holiday whilst also experiencing the spectacular Red Centre and true Australian outback. The air conditioned guest rooms and suites each feature free in house movies, modem access and STD/IDD direct dial telephones, tea and coffee facilities, iron and ironing board. All rooms offer glorious views of the MacDonnell Ranges or the hotels poolside area. Facilities include a gymnasium, spa and sauna, heated swimming pool and floodlight tennis courts.



# Day 8 – Monday, Alice Springs to Darwin

## **Great Southern Railway, Alice Springs**

Ghan Alice Springs to Darwin Gold Twin -Everyday

Start: Monday End: Tuesday

**Inclusions:** All meals, selected wines and beverages, off train excursions, seat in coach transfer from train station to selected hotels in Darwin.

#### Day 1: Depart Alice Springs on board The Ghan

Step aboard the legendary Ghan early evening and acquaint yourself with the friendly staff and facilities on board. Relax in your cabin or mingle with fellow travellers in the Lounge car. Enjoy the passing scenery of the Outback while dinner is served in the classically styled Queen Adelaide Restaurant.

#### Day 2: Arrive Darwin on board The Ghan

Start your day with an early breakfast so that you can make the most of your time in Katherine. Take a leisurely cruise on the Katherine River or gain an insight into the traditional owners of Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge, the Jawoyn people, with a tailormade cultural experience. You may choose to upgrade your excursion with scenic helicopter flight providing magnificent views over Kakadu and Nitmiluk National Parks (own expense). Depart Katherine early afternoon and enjoy lunch onboard as the lush tropical vegetation heralds your arrival into Darwin earling evening.

Please exchange your voucher for your railway ticket 60 minutes prior to the scheduled train departure time at the Train Station ticket office.

## Day 9 - Tuesday, Arrive Darwin

**Darwin** has a relaxed outdoor lifestyle and enjoys warm weather all year round. Perched on a peninsula with sea on three sides, Darwin is an excellent base to explore the natural attractions of World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park, Litchfield and Nitmiluk National Parks, the Tiwi Islands and Arnhem Land. Darwin's colourful history has contributed to its cultural diversity - more than 50 nationalities make up its 100,000 population, including the area's traditional landowners, the Larrakia Aboriginal people. The cultural and culinary benefits of such a melting pot are best experienced at Darwin's weekly markets, variety of restaurants and through the annual calendar of festivals and other events.



#### Acacia Luxury Transport, Darwin

Railway Station (The Ghan) to Hotel

Please meet the Acacia Luxury Transport driver on the platform as you alight from the train. The driver will be wearing a white shirt with black trousers/skirt and will be holding a sign with your name on it.

If for any reason you are unable to locate your driver, please call (08) 8981 8283.

#### Vibe Hotel Darwin Waterfront , Darwin

Accommodation in a Guest Room for 1 nights

**Additional Inclusions:** Full Breakfast

Located on Darwin's Waterfront and the fringe of Darwin's central business district, the hotel is perfectly positioned to explore Darwin's newest restaurants, boutique shops and seafront promenade. Darwin is brimming with fun filled activities including exploring World Heritage listed tourist attractions, wandering through Aboriginal art galleries or savouring the outdoor lifestyle. Recline in a deckchair and watch a movie under the stars at the nearby Deckchair Cinema, visit a great range of bars, pubs and night clubs within walking distance and savour the local fresh seafood on Stokes Hill Wharf.

#### Day 10 - Wednesday

**AAT Kings Tours, Darwin** 

2 Days Kakadu & East Alligator River (Superior)

Start: Wednesday 18 Nov 15 End: Thursday 19 Nov 15

Tour Code: DK40S

Inclusions: Valid 01 April 2015 to 31 March 2016

Kakadu National Park Ticket, Lunch (Day 1 & 2), accommodation

Travel across Adelaide River and Marrakai Plains and deep into Kakadu National Park. Take a guided walk to view ancient Aboriginal rock art at Nourlangie Rock. After lunch join the famous Yellow Water Billabong Cruise to observe saltwater crocodiles and the colourful range of prolific bird life that this region is reowned for. Visit the Warradjan Aboriginal Cultural Centre and view the informative displays and exhibits depicting the traditions of the Aboriginal people. There is opportunity for an optional 50 minute scenic flight (own expense) before being transfered Aurora Kakadu.

Note: During months November to April, access to Ubirr and East Alligator River is not always possible. Alternative touring will be arranged.

## Day 11 – Thursday, Darwin to Kakadu

This morning stop at Ubirr with a short walk to view rock art. Join the Guluyambi Cruise along the East Alligator River in search of saltwater crocodiles. We have an Aboriginal guide with us and with the special permission of the local people, we will be able to go ashore in Arnhem Land. Visit the Bowali Visitor Centre. Return journey to Darwin.

Note: During months November to April, access to Ubirr and East Alligator River is not always possible. Alternative touring will be arranged.

#### Vibe Hotel Darwin Waterfront , Darwin

Accommodation in a Guest Room for 1 nights

**Additional Inclusions:** Full Breakfast

Located on Darwin's Waterfront and the fringe of Darwin's central business district, the hotel is perfectly positioned to explore Darwin's newest restaurants, boutique shops and seafront promenade. Darwin is brimming with fun filled activities including exploring World Heritage listed tourist attractions, wandering through Aboriginal art galleries or savouring the outdoor lifestyle. Recline in a deckchair and watch a movie under the stars at the nearby Deckchair Cinema, visit a great range of bars, pubs and night clubs within walking distance and savour the local fresh seafood on Stokes Hill Wharf.

## Day 12 - Friday, Darwin to Cairns

#### Acacia Luxury Transport, Darwin

City Hotel to Airport

Please inform the Hotel Concierge or Front Desk that you are waiting for a Acacia Luxury Transport transfer and be waiting in the hotel lobby 10 minutes prior to the specified pick-up time.

If for any reason you need to contact Acacia Luxury Transport, please call (08) 8981 8283...

Flight at own arrangements.

#### Cairns Limousine Service, Cairns

**Domestic Airport to Cairns Hotel** 

Please meet the Cairns Limousine Service driver at the designated luggage carousel for your flight. The driver will be wearing a white shirt with a name badge and black trousers and will be holding a Cairns Limousine Service sign with your name on it.

If for any reason you are unable to locate your driver, please call (07) 4032 1599.

#### **Pacific Hotel Cairns, Cairns**

Accommodation in a Executive Room for 3 nights

Additional Inclusions: Full Breakfast Churrasco Experience

This is the best location in Cairns, ideal from which to explore and enjoy all the attractions Cairns has to offer. The Esplanade Lagoon and Parklands, the Sea Port, the Reef Fleet Terminal, Reef Casino, Art Galleries, shopping and dining are situated right at the hotel's front door. All rooms and

suites feature balconies with superb views of the harbour and parklands. Enjoy the hotel's Bushfire Restaurant and Sugarcane Rhumbar which complete the picture of a boutique style hotel with a strong focus on guest comfort and customer service.



# Day 13 - Saturday, Cairns

#### Ocean Spirit Cruises, Cairns

Michaelmas Cay Cruise (ex Hotel)

**Inclusions:** Coach transfers from Cairns Hotel, Morning and afternoon teas, tropical smorgasbord lunch, snorkel equipment, coral viewing in air-conditioned semi-submersible, informative ecological presentations by qualified Marine Biologists and guided nature tours of the island and bird sanctuary.

Your Ocean Spirit Cruise commences with a transfer from your hotel to the Reef Fleet Terminal to check-in. Board your catamaran 'Ocean Spirit' to Michealmas Cay at the edge of the Outer Barrier Reef. Spend a leisurely day on the cay, take a ride in the semi-submersible or try snorkelling in the clear waters, which reveal the magic of the tropical waters and its inhabitants. Lunch and Environmental Marine Charge is included. Note! The cay is a dedicated bird sanctuary.



# Day 14 – Sunday, Cairns

#### Down Under Tours (Aust), Cairns

Cape Tribulation - Daintree & Mossman Gorge

Tour Code: CTR

**Inclusions:** Hotel pick up and drop off, 4WD Vehicle, Morning Tea, Guided walk at Mossman Gorge Centre, Rainforest Canopy Tower, Cape Tribulation Beach & boardwalk, lunch in a rainforest setting, Alexandra Lookout, Daintree River Cruise and a Professional driver/guide throughout.

Pick up from your hotel by Down Under Tours and travel along the scenic coastal highway to the Daintree River. On your one hour river cruise you have the opportunity to gain an understanding of this wildlife environment habitat of birds, tree snakes, unique plants and of course the estuarine

crocodile. From the opposite side of the river travel up to the Alexandra Lookout, having wound through the rainforest of the Alexandra Range. Enjoy this spectacular lookout over the Daintree River estuary, Snapper Island and beyond to the Coral Sea. With special access at a private rainforest property, enjoy a short walk along a delightful rainforest creek before a delicious tropical lunch. Choice of quality steak, fish or vegetarian meal with fresh salads and fruit platter, followed by coffee or Daintree Tea. Continue the day visiting Cape Tribulation and walk on this world-renowned rainforest beach and admire the coastline and fringing coral reef from the Kulki Lookout. Cross the Daintree River and head to the Mossman Gorge Centre, where you can enjoy an Indigenous presentation by the traditional owners of the gorge, the Kuku Yalanji people before boarding your eco shuttle for the transfer into Mossman Gorge. Your driver/ guide will take you for a guided walk sharing their knowledge of this enchanting rainforest environment. Learn about the fascinating secrets of one of the world's oldest rainforests. Guided tour and afternoon tea included. Return to your hotel early evening.

## Day 15 - Monday, Depart Cairns

#### **Exemplar Coaches and Limousines, Cairns**

Cairns Hotel to Airport, Seat in Coach

Please inform the Hotel Concierge or Front Desk that you are wating for an Exemplar Coaches airport transfer and be waiting in the hotel lobby 10-15 minutes prior to the specified pick-up time.

#### **Cairns Limousine Service , Cairns**

Cairns Hotel to Airport

Please inform the Hotel Concierge or Front Desk that you are waiting for a Cairns Limousine Service transfer and be waiting in the hotel lobby 10 minutes prior to the specified pick-up time.

If for any reason you need to contact Cairns Limousine Service, please call (07) 4032 1599.

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#### **Operates:**

Mondays.

Between December and March the itinerary becomes a 16 Day itinerary with an additional day in Darwin and rearrangement of Darwin touring.

Some sightseeing tours do not operate on Christmas Day, New Years Eve, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

#### **Includes:**

- Private Car/Driver from Airport to Hotel in Sydney
- 3 nights accommodation including breakfast in Sydney as specified or similar
- Half-day Sydney City Tour (seat in coach)
- Full-day Blue Mountains Tour including lunch (seat in coach)
- Private Car/Driver Hotel to Airport in Sydney
- Complimentary Shuttle transfer Airport to Hotel in Ayers Rock
- 2 nights accommodation including breakfast in Ayers Rock as specified or similar
- Half-day Uluru Sunrise and Base Caves tour (seat in coach)
- Half-day Kata Tjuta tour (seat in coach)
- Transfer Ayers Rock to Kings Canyon
- 1 night accommodation including breakfast in Kings Canyon as specified
- Half-day Kings Canyon Rim Walk
- Transfer Kings Canyon to Alice Springs

- Ghan train from Alice Springs to Darwin (Gold Twin cabin) including meals and off-train tours in Katherine
- Private transfer from Train Station to Hotel in Darwin
- 1 nights accommodation including breakfast in Darwin as specified or similar
- 2 Day/1 Night Kakadu and East Alligator River tour in Superior accommodation and touring (seat in coach)
- 1 nights accommodation including breakfast in Darwin as specified or similar
- Private Car/Driver from hotel to airport in Darwin
- Private Car/Driver from Airport to hotel in Cairns
- 3 nights accommodation including breakfast in Cairns as specified or similar
- Full-day Great Barrier reef cruise including round-trip transfers from hotel, buffet lunch, snorkelling equipment (seat in coach/boat)
- Full-day Cape Tribulation tour including lunch, Daintree River cruise, hotel pick-up and drop-off (seat in coach)
- Private Car/Driver Hotel to Airport in Cairns
- GST Goods and Service Tax
- Travel Wallet



Peace of mind

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