

Australian Wilderness Tours 2017/18

DGC 7



Darwin, Gulf, Lawn Hill, Undarra Outback Experience to Cairns

Duration: 7 Days, 6 Nights

Day 1

Depart Darwin 8.00am heading south. Fascinating historic town of Pine Creek and the historic Goldfields, full of unusual buildings and memories of the old railway and telegraph line. Located 248 km south of Darwin on the Stuart Highway Pine Creek was named after the local creek which was crossed in December 1870 by the teams constructing the Overland Telegraph Line. The creek was notable, as the name suggests, for the many pines on its banks. Pine Creek's busiest time was during the Second World War when as many as 247 trains came through in one week in 1944. After an interesting stop at Pine Creek, we continue on to Edith Falls which is located on the western boundary of Nitmiluk National Park (Katherine Gorge). The paperbark and pandanus fringed natural pool at the base of the falls is safe for swimming throughout most of the year. After lunch we have a short journey to Katherine, the third largest town in the Northern Territory. Our day concludes by visiting Mataranka and Mataranka Homestead, with natural thermal pools surrounded by lush tropical palms.

Overnight: Mataranka Homestead, MATARANKA (DBB)

Day 2

Today we adventure through the gulf visiting the Roper River which is abundant with Barramundi and stop at various locations to enjoy views of the temporary fishing camps along the way. After a morning tea break by the river, we head south visiting many lagoons, rivers and enjoying the Towns River and the often seen Johnson River Crocodiles. After an enjoyable lunch stop at Linnen Bight River and National Park we continue to the fantastic landscape of the Southern Lost City. Late afternoon we arrive at our bush stay at Borroloola Hotel Motel.

Overnight: Borroloola Hotel Motel, BORROLOOLA (DBB)

Day 3

This morning we cross the Macarthur River, a very large River system feeding into the Gulf from the Barkley Tablelands. Onwards through many river valleys to Wollgorang Station on Settlement Creek. Crossing into Queensland, we head off the Gulf trail to venture through the incredible rock formations of Hells Gate, then we continue on to the Nicholson River before turning south through property trails of Bothorn and Lorne Hill Stations, past Mt Oscar Outstation to our idyllic location at Adel's Grove to enjoy the next two nights.

Overnight: Adel's Grove, LAWN HILL (DBB)

Day 4

A relaxing day where we visit Lorne Hill National Park (Aboriginal name Boodjamulla) where we enjoy some guided walks such as the Island Ben lookout, the Cascades walk and then canoeing along two gorges to enjoy the ambiance of the area, the wildlife and waterfalls. We stop for a nice picnic lunch before returning to Adel's Grove for relaxing afternoon walks along the stream.

Overnight: Adel's Grove, LAWN HILL (DBB)

Day 5

Leaving Adel's Grove we head east to Gregory Downs, before northwards again to historic Burketown. Burketown is the oldest settlement in the Gulf and still has a 107 year old Artesian Bore in working order. Continuing onwards, we head to Floraville Station which has walker's monument which relates to the resting place of the explorer Frederick Walker who led one of the Queensland search parties for Australian explorers Burke & Wills. Then it's a short journey with picnic lunch to Leichhardt Falls on the Leichhardt River – named after another famous Australian Explorer.

Heading east towards Normanton to view Burke & Wills camp 119 where in 1861 they left their marks on trees before leaving on their ill-fated journey to Coopers Creek. ON arrival in Normanton we visit the historical Gulflander train and rail motor.

Overnight: Purple Pub and Brolga Palms Motel, NORMANTON (DBB)

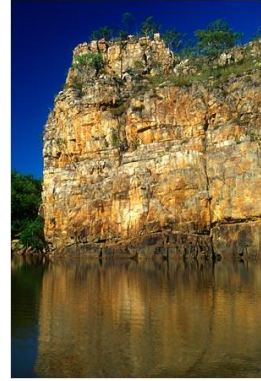
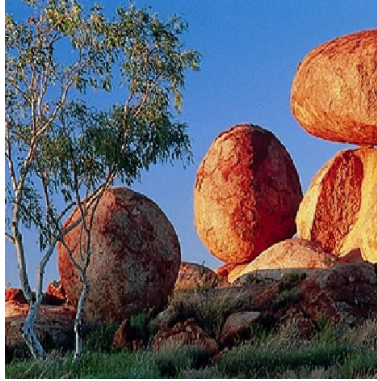
Day 6

East today through the Gulf with our first stop at Croydon, a once prosperous Gold Village with many hotels and people, including the Chinese. Then we cross further east on the Savannah Way, we visit the Cumberland Chimney Stack another Gold Mining site. We continue on to Georgetown. Onwards to Mount Surprise, a very popular gem and fossicking town especially for Topaz. Continuing to Undarra Volcanic National Park. After checking into our accommodation, we do a 2 hour tour (3.30 – 5.30) of the famous Undarra Lava Tube.

Overnight: Undarra Experience, UNDARRA (DBB)

Day 7

This morning we head North East traveling 40 miles through Scrub National Park to Mount Garnet – another famous fossicking area. From here, we head to Innot Hot springs and Ravens Hoe, visiting Mill Stream Falls. We then head through the scenic trail of the Southern Atherton Tablelands to Millaa Millaa Village and Waterfall. From here we head through the lush Atherton Tablelands to Malanda, to the Curtain Fig and Yungaburra. Further enjoying the sites during the afternoon, we visit Cradle Lakes of Lake Eacham and Lake Barrine to Gillies Lookout and descend the Atherton Tablelands to Gordon Vale to conclude our journey late afternoon in Cairns.



Departs Darwin every 2nd and 4th Monday May to November

INCLUSIONS

- 4WD air-conditioned deluxe transport
- All breakfasts, 6 dinners & morning teas
- All accommodation twin share private facilities (where possible)
- All entries to National Parks
- Experienced driver guide

TOUR COST: AUD

\$3,975.00 Adult (twin share)

\$1,000.00 Single Supplement

\$2,690.00 Child (5-12 years – share with adult)

Minimum 4

TOUR CODE: DGC7

Note: Accommodations are subject to availability and may be changed without notice.