

Adelaide - Uluru via Kings Canyon

The Outback Explorer

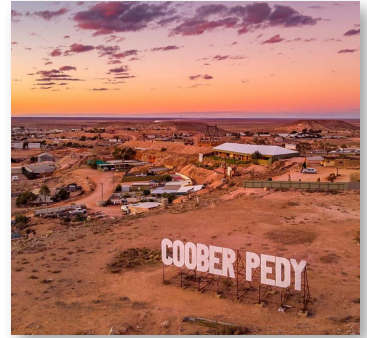
With Trade Travel



TRADE TRAVEL
Effortless Journeys, Endless Memories

13 Days / 12 Nights - Fully Escorted

Tour Departs: Wednesday 21 August - Monday 2 September, 2024.



Day 1. Wed 21 Aug: Homeport - Adelaide

Dinner

Flight Details: Homeport - Adelaide (flight times to be confirmed)

This morning we check-in at our Home Airport for our flight across to Adelaide to the 'City of Churches'. Upon arrival into Adelaide Airport we are met by our experienced coach captain for our **drive tour of Glenelg, North Adelaide and the city circuit**. We arrive at the iconic **Adelaide Central Market** which was established in 1869 and has been a thriving hub of food and culture for over 150 years! We have the afternoon at leisure to explore the markets and meet the traders of this iconic market. Later that afternoon we check-in to our hotel **Ibis Adelaide** where there will be time to rest before we gather for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Overnight Adelaide: Ibis Adelaide

Day 2. Thu 22 Aug: Adelaide - Mintaro - Burra - Flinders Ranges

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Our 'Outback Adventure' begins early as we depart Adelaide and head up into the Flinders Range, travelling via Mintaro, Burra and Hawker. In Mintaro, the **Georgian style mansion of Martindale Hall** provides an ideal morning tea stop. Featuring in the film 'Picnic at Hanging Rock', Martindale Hall today is a unique experience of a living museum and is a step back in time to the days of gracious living on a large pastoral estate late in the 1800's to early 1900's. Just 38km north of Mintaro we find the **historic copper mining town of Burra**. The copper mines were first discovered in 1845 and were operated by Cornish and Welsh miners until 1877. Our guided tour takes in the heritage buildings, lookouts and other major sites including the Red Ruth Gaol, which featured in the movie 'Breaker Morant'. After a light lunch at the **Bon Accord Hotel** in Burra, our tour winds its way up through the small townships of Jamestown, Orroroo and Hawker before arriving at **Wilpena Pound**. Located in the heart of the **Flinders Ranges**, the Resort is the perfect base to explore this vast and spectacular ancient outback landscape. Known as Ikara meaning 'the meeting place', Wilpena Pound Resort offers a one-of-a-kind experience of the destination. The region is renowned for its geological history, ancient fossils and Aboriginal rock art. After check-in, we have time to freshen up before joining our fellow travellers for dinner.

Overnight Flinders Ranges: Wilpena Pound Resort

Day 3. Fri 23 Aug: Flinders Ranges

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today we are joined with our local guide, and begin our day of touring through the scenic **Flinders Ranges** travelling along the Blinman Road. We visit **Stokes Hill Lookout** which provides an expansive panoramic view of the surrounding landscape including Wilpena Pounds eastern escarpment. Another feature of the lookout is a cast model of Wilpena Pound featuring the main landmarks and the shape and size of this unique formation. Our drive continues past breathtaking gorges and giant sharp saw tooth ridges. The **Aroona Valley** flanked by the **Heysen Range** was where **Sir Hans Heysen** completed some of his most inspiring and famous works. The drive down into the valley offers spectacular views south of the **Pound Range** and the area along the **Bunyeroo Creek** is a favourite location for kangaroos and ems. After our drive through the ranges we arrive at the **Wilpena Pound Information Centre** for picnic lunch. This afternoon we have the opportunity to take in a leisurely walk along one of the walking tracks or take the shuttle into the Pound for the longer walk that will allow us to see the **Hill Homestead and Wangarra Lookouts**. The Wangarra Hill is located behind the Hill Homestead and offers two great lookouts giving wonderful panoramic views of the amazing **Wilpena Pound**. Late afternoon we arrive back at our accommodation after a delightful day out before gathering for dinner.

Overnight Flinders Ranges: Wilpena Pound Resort

Day 4. Sat 24 Aug: Pichi Richi Railway - Port Augusta

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

We depart Flinders Ranges this morning and enjoy a short stop in Hawker at the **Jeff Morgan Gallery** to view his amazing works. We observe the two magnificent giant panoramas, 30 x 3 metre Wilpena Panorama, and 46 x 5.5 metre Arkaroola Panorama. We then travel down to **Quorn**, established as a town on the Great Northern Railway line in 1878. The line was built by Chinese and British workers and operated for over 45 years (it closed in 1957). The town's old charm has not been lost on movie producers as the historic streetscapes and surrounding landscapes have been used in many films. This is where we experience train travel as it was a century ago in the South Australian countryside on the **Pichi Richi Explorer**, a half-day steam-train journey from **Quorn**. As the track winds its way into the picturesque **Pichi Richi Pass**, we'll get a close-up view of the ancient Flinders Ranges geology in the deep rock cuttings built in the 1870s. The carriages, some dating back to the 19th century, were used on narrow-gauge trains such as the Great Northern Express, The Ghan, the East-West Express, and services in the south-east of SA. Our 2.5hr return journey out to **Woolshed Flat** has us arriving back in Quorn to take in the charm of Quorn and enjoy some lunch. From Quorn it's a 45min drive down to **Port Augusta** home to the **multi award winning Wadlata Outback Centre**. Take a wander through the displays which depict the history of the Flinders Ranges and the Outback of South Australia from 15 million years ago to modern day. Also experience and learn about the Dream Time of the Aborigine, European settlement and early explorers. This facility also explores the history of outback transport, mining, School of the Air, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Leigh Creek Coal Mine, Olympic Dam Mine and the Moomba Gas Fields. Late afternoon we continue into Port Augusta for check-in to our motel and enjoy time to freshen up before dinner.

Overnight Port Augusta: Standpipe Golf Motor Inn

Day 5. Sun 25 Aug: Port Augusta - Woomera - Coober Pedy

Breakfast & Dinner

Today our journey continues north to Coober Pedy. Our first refreshment and comfort stop is in **Woomera** at the **Heritage Museum** which contains displays relating to the **Woomera Rocket Range** and the now closed Joint Defence Facility at Nurrungar. The displays contain an extensive range of rocket parts along with photos and descriptions of 'The Range' activities, including the most recent NEXST-1 and HyShot trials. We take a stroll through **Missile Park** before departing Woomera. We travel via **Lake Hart**, to our next stop at **Glendambo Roadhouse for our lunch (own expense)** before reaching Coober Pedy, the opal mining capital of the world. We notice the unique moonscape and bizarre township as we are driving into town. After settling into our accommodation we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight Coober Pedy: Mud Hut Motel

Day 6. Mon 26 Aug: Coober Pedy

Light Breakfast & Dinner

After breakfast this morning we begin our day in Coober Pedy with a tour of the **Opal Mine**. Learn about mining and living underground on our informative guided tour through the museum. We also enjoy a stone cutting demonstration and journey deep into the earth. See how Coober Pedy residents live, with a walk through an underground house and learn all about mining in one of the oldest mines in the town centre. We then get to watch the award-winning documentary in the amazing underground movie theatre. We then tour an **authentic Coober Pedy dugout, Faye's Historic Underground Home** and learn about life underground. This underground home(or dugout as the locals call them) was excavated using the original method of picks, shovels and a lot of blood, sweat and tears. Built forty years ago by three women, this home offers an insight into the strength of character that Coober Pedy was built on. We then have some **free time** to check out the **gallery and opal shops**, and purchase some lunch along Hutchison Street. This afternoon we take a look inside **St Peter and Paul's Catholic Church**, the first purpose-built underground Catholic Church of its type in the world which opened in June 25 1967 and had extensions completed September 1984. With our local guide we take a look at Coober Pedy from the **Big Winch Lookout**, check out the **Old Cemetery** which dates back to 1921, **The Boot Hill tombstones** (including the 18 gallon beer keg for Mr Karl Bratz), then the **Coober Pedy Opal Fields, Dog Fence, Race Track and Golf Course**. Late afternoon we arrive back at our accommodation to rest before dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight Coober Pedy: Mud Hut Motel

Day 7. Tue 27 Aug: Coober Pedy - Alice Springs

Light Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Departing early from **Coober Pedy** we continue north along the Stuart Highway towards Alice Springs. **Marla** will be our first **comfort stop** before crossing the SA/NT Border some 395km north of Coober Pedy. A little over an hour into the Northern Territory will see us travel to **Kulgera Roadhouse** for lunch. Mid-afternoon we arrive in **Alice Springs** and check into our accommodation, enjoying a well earned rest before dinner.

Overnight Alice Springs: Mercure Alice Springs

Day 8. Wed 28 Aug: Alice Springs Touring

Breakfast & Dinner

After breakfast we enjoy the view from **Anzac Hill Lookout**. The **Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historic Reserve and Museum** is a site of the area's first European settlement. Established in 1871 to relay messages between Darwin and Adelaide and also links to London with an underwater cable network, thus creating the first real communication between Australia and England. We stop by the **John Flynn Memorial Historical Reserve**, the resting place of the Reverend John Flynn - founder of the Flying Doctor Service and the Australian Inland Mission. This lays down the foundation for our next visit which will be the **Royal Flying Doctor Service Visitor Facility** where we hear of the incredible history that has shaped the RFDS of today. We enjoy some free time before we travel back to our hotel to relax, before heading out for an evening of entertainment and outback cuisine set in the remote and isolated East MacDonnell Ranges. **The Original Outback Bush BBQ** is a unique and authentic experience where we become immersed in the spirit and grandeur that is the Australian Outback. Tuck into a mouth-watering meal of prime Australian beef, enjoy a cold beer or wine from the Aussie Bush bar, and listen to the epic story of their life in this harsh land.

Overnight Alice Springs: Mercure Alice Springs

Day 9. Thur 29 Aug: Alice Springs - Standley Chasm - Kings Canyon

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Our journey continues across this great land to the spectacular **Standley Chasm** created by the floods that, over untold millions of years, have surged down a narrow tributary of the Finke River system. Today the result is a deep red cleft in the **West MacDonnell Ranges** crowded on either side by craggy slopes that rise 80 metres above the floor. The Chasm is at its most dramatic an hour either side of noon where on a bright sunny day the sheer quartzite walls glow from reflected sunlight to create a breathtaking display of stark form and rich colour. After our guided walk (optional) into the chasm, lunch will be provided for us at the cafe which is set amongst the shady gum trees on the bank of the Angkerle Creek. After lunch our drive takes us **to the beautiful and majestic Kings Canyon**. Enjoy **sunset drinks and nibbles overlooking the canyon (own cost)** before dinner at our hotel.

Overnight Kings Canyon: Kings Canyon Resort

Day 10. Fri 30 Aug: Kings Canyon - Uluru

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Optional - Some may choose to rise early to enjoy a guided **'Canyon Walk'** before breakfast. After checkout we enjoy one final look out across the iconic Kings Canyon before beginning our drive across to Uluru. Prior to reaching Curtin Springs we stop to view and take photos of the **300 meter high Mount Conner**, a distinctive flat-topped sandstone capped sand and rock mountain. This horseshoe-shaped inselberg is one of the most distinctive formations in the region. We stop by the **Curtin Springs** cattle station to learn about its history and paper making and enjoy lunch. We then continue on to Yulara, the village town to the spectacular **Uluru**, the largest sandstone monolith in the Southern Hemisphere. Once settled into our accommodation we have some free time to visit the township of Yulara as we wish. Late afternoon we head out to take in the **magical sunset over Uluru** before making our way back to the resort for dinner.

Overnight Yulara: Outback Pioneer Hotel

Day 11. Sat 31 Aug: Free Day

Breakfast

After breakfast the day is ours to enjoy at leisure or to take in some of the optional touring offered from the resort:

* **Uluru Camel Experience Tour**

* **Scenic Flights available**

Both lunch and dinner today are at own cost and arrangement.

Overnight Yulara: Outback Pioneer Hotel

Day 12. Sun 1 Sept: Uluru - The Olgas - Field of Lights Dinner

Breakfast & Dinner

Today is a highlight of our tour, as we learn about the real heart of Australia. We travel out to the **Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre** where we learn about the traditional and ancient cultures and all that **Uluru** has to offer. We also view the interesting displays which explain more about Uluru and its traditional owners, before enjoying a **leisurely short flat loop walk with our local guide**, which takes us in and around near **the base of Uluru**, before travelling out to **Kata Tjuta**, the cluster of rocks known as **'The Olgas'**. These massive and vividly coloured, round rocks are a dramatic outline of this landscape. This evening we immerse ourselves in the exclusive **dining experience** under the outback sky with a once in a lifetime **Field of Lights spectacular**. With magnificent views of Uluru at sunset, a special three-course bush tucker menu, premium selection of Aussie wines and beers, fascinating star talk, and self-guided walk through the Field of Lights, our final night in the centre is complete.

Overnight Yulara: Outback Pioneer Hotel

Day 13. Mon 02 Sept: Ayers Rock - Homeport

Breakfast

For those willing, there is an option to view the **sunrise over Uluru** one last time before returning for breakfast. We then checkout and transfer to the Yulara airport for our flight back home after a wonderful time away with Trade Travel.

Flight Details: Ayers Rock - Homeport (flight times to be confirmed)



Tour Highlights & Inclusions



Tour Highlights:

Adelaide Central Markets; Martindale Hall; Historic Copper Mining Township of Burra; Giant Panoramas - Jeff Morgan Gallery; Flinders Ranges - Stokes Hill Lookout, Gorges & Aroona Valley, Wilpena Pound, Hill Homestead, Wangarra Lookout; Pichi Richi Railway; Wadlata Outback Centre; Woomera Heritage Museum & Missile Park; Coober Pedy; Umoona Opal Mine; Faye's Historic Underground Home; St Peter & Paul Catholic Church; Big Winch Lookout; Anzac Hill Lookout; Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historic Reserve & Museum; Standley Chasm; John Flynn Memorial Reserve; Original Outback Bush BBQ & Show; Mt Conner; Curtin Springs; Kings Canyon Gorge; Ayers Rock Visitor Centre; Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre; Uluru; Kata Tjuta (The Olgas); Uluru Sunset, Outback Dinner & The Field of Lights + more!

Tour Price Includes:

- Trade Travel Tour Host
- Flights from Homeport to Adelaide & Yulara to Homeport
- Luxury coach travel
- 12 Nights quality accommodation
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (29 meals)
- All entry fees & guides as per itinerary

Ex Sydney: \$7498.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$1845.00)

Ex Brisbane/Melbourne: \$7598.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$1845.00)

Other cities available on request.

A minimum of 20 passengers is required for this tour to proceed.

Please note that the itinerary is subject to change at any time without notice.

Please note: *Flights are subject to confirmation/change and price increases at any time.*

Deposit: A deposit of **\$200.00** per person is due on booking to secure your place on this tour, along with completed & signed booking form.

Final Payment: Due no later than **Friday 14 June, 2024.**

Book directly through Palmers Tours please contact Lynne

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