

A wide-angle photograph of Uluru, a large sandstone rock formation in the Northern Territory of Australia, illuminated by the warm, orange and red light of a sunset. The foreground is a vast, flat landscape covered in sparse, dry grasses and small shrubs under a clear sky.

Outback Safari

8 days - 5 to 12 April 2020

Day 1 - 5 April

Students will fly from Brisbane at 11.45am arriving into Adelaide at 2pm. Note, if you live outside of the Brisbane/Gold Coast/Sunshine Coast area we will book your flights from your nearest regional airport.

We explore the City of Churches and there is free time to explore Rundle Mall. After exploring the town we head to our camp site where your Safari Driver will now demonstrate the tent set up and dismantle routine, watch carefully as you will be expected to do this with your own tent. Your EQI Tour Supervisors will go through the Tour Rules, Rosters and what to expect on tour.

Meals: Dinner

Scenic flights over Uluru are available at own expense (approx. \$150pp). If you want to do a scenic helicopter flight over Uluru you need an email from your parents giving you permission to participate in the flight. Print the email with your parent permission and give to the Safari Driver on the 1st day of the tour. NOTE you are NOT guaranteed a scenic flight - numbers may be limited due to time constraints and/or flights may be cancelled due to weather conditions.

Day 2 - 6 April

Early rise this morning we have a long journey North, we pass through **Port Augusta** and arrive at **Woomera**, a former rocket testing range in time for lunch. Then we continue on, stopping briefly at **Lake Hart**, one of the largest salt lakes in Australia for some great photo opportunities. We arrive early evening into **Coober Pedy**. We sleep underground tonight (no laundry facilities).

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 3 - 7 April

This morning we explore the town including watching an opal demonstration. We visit the **Underground Church** and some homes to see how the residents live in a town where temperatures can climb as high as 50 degrees.

Time to continue North, travelling the flat red centre and endless horizon of Central Australia. We pass the oasis of the Marla Bore before arriving at **Kings Canyon**.

Tonight we enjoy marshmallows around the campfire (fire bans permitting) Star gazing will be very easy tonight provided the weather is clear. (no washing facilities)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

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Day 4 - 8 April

Early rise this morning, we pack up before heading off to explore **Kings Canyon**.

The sheer walls of the Canyon rise up 270 metres, making it the deepest gorge in Central Australia. All students **MUST** have 2lt of water to do the walk.

If you have reasonable fitness you can walk to the rim of the Canyon, which offers spectacular views over the 'Lost City' and 'Garden of Eden'. Or you can walk the base of the Canyon and look up at the spectacular cliff faces.

After this exhilarating walk we enjoy breakfast before continuing on to **Yulara**, arriving mid afternoon. On arrival - students who have booked the scenic helicopter ride will be taken to the airfield. The remainder of the group can relax at camp, swim in the pool or take a short scenic walk to see Uluru from a distance.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 5 - 9 April

This morning we visit **Uluru** for a base walk and information session with a Park Ranger about the history of the rock and the Aboriginal people. **NOTE** we do not allow any passengers to climb Uluru.

We respect the cultural beliefs of the indigenous people that this is a sacred site. Time to visit the **Cultural Centre** and learn about the history of the local tribes, dreamtime and sacred ceremonies.

We return to camp for lunch before heading off to visit **Kata Tjuta** this afternoon - even larger and, some say, more brooding than Uluru. Walk to the lookout and marvel at the imposing domes before returning to camp. Time to relax at the pool or catch up on some washing.

Late afternoon we visit **Sunset Strip** and photograph the amazing colours of this magnificent monolith as the sun sets.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 6 - 10 April

Farewell Uluru, we head North to **Alice Springs**, arriving early afternoon. We enjoy a town tour including the view from Anzac Hill where you can see the West Macdonnell Ranges.

We now head to the **West MacDonnell Ranges**, one of the most popular and interesting National Parks. We head West and before long we arrive at **Simpsons Gap**. We enjoy a short stroll along a walking track, see if you can spot the black footed rock wallabies. Return to camp for dinner

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 7 - 11 April

This morning we enjoy a **Dreamtime & Bushtucker Tour**. You will meet with members of the Warlpiri tribe, learn about and taste bush tucker (including witchetty grubs) see indigenous weaponry and try boomerang throwing. You have the opportunity to purchase genuine artworks but you need to take cash, there are no EFTPOS facilities.

After that informative and hands on experience it's time to head into town where you can purchase your lunch and have some free time before we visit the **Royal Flying Doctor Service** and learn about this important service for Australians in remote areas.

Late afternoon we visit the **School of the Air** and learn how children living in remote areas are educated by distance. We return to camp for dinner.

This evening we enjoy a visit from the **Reptile Centre** where you can see Thorny Devils, frill neck lizards; large pythons up close and personal. There is hands-on fun for everyone. You will learn all about Australia's reptiles and have the opportunity to have your photo taken with large snakes wrapped around your neck.

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 8 - 12 April

At 11am its time to say farewell to your new friends and fly back to Brisbane arriving approximately 2.25pm, with a lifetime of memories and a camera full of photographs!

Meals: Breakfast

Price for 2020

\$1,683 + flights (inc. GST)

Applications close 27 March, 2020
