

KIMBERLEY & TOP END EXPEDITION

BROOME - DARWIN

SAMPLE ITINERARY

This is a sample itinerary and may be subject to change. We may need to alter or amend itineraries, excursions, accommodation, or sightseeing arrangements from those published, with little or no notice. This may be due to road conditions, weather, cultural considerations, safety factors and other operational considerations or government regulations. Final itineraries are sent to passengers approximately 2-3 weeks before travel.

DAY 1 – Broome

Today you will be greeted by our friendly and professional Tour Directors at the time and location specified above, before checking in to Cable Beach Club Resort where you will stay for the next two nights. The remainder of the day is free to spend at your leisure, before we view a spectacular Indian Ocean sunset from the resort before your welcome dinner. (D)

DAY 2 – Horizontal Falls Seaplane / Jet Boat Adventure

Our journey starts on a high with a sensational half day adventure to the Horizontal Falls. Described by Sir David Attenborough as ‘one of the greatest natural wonders of the world’, the falls are created when the 2nd largest tides in the world hurtle through two narrow coastal gorges.

First up, join us for a town tour of Broome or relax at the resort until you are collected for your Horizontal Falls adventure!

Enjoy a 60-minute seaplane flight and land on the calm waters of Talbot Bay in the Buccaneer Archipelago. Then, board one of their power boats for an exciting ride through the Horizontal Falls. You’ll hear from their expert skipper on the unique geological structures that have formed to create the Horizontal Falls while admiring the amazing azure waters that wash around you. We’ll also cruise some of the surrounding bays and creeks and have a bite to eat on their floating pontoon. Learn from their experienced Pontoon crew about rich local marine life and have a refreshing swim in Talbot Bay waters in a safety of their partly-submerged marine viewing platform before returning to Broome.

Tonight, we gather for our final dinner together and celebrate our adventure through the Kimberley. (B,L,D)

Note: Horizontal Falls Seaplane Adventures seaplanes are governed by individual guests’ weight and therefore all guests must declare their accurate weights (with clothes on) at the time of booking. All guests are weighed upon boarding for weight verification and safe loading of the aircraft. In addition to the individual weights, they also have an upper weight limit of no more than 120kg.

What to pack: 2kg hand luggage weight allowance is applicable per guest. Please bring water bottle, sun protection, camera and light towel. We recommend to wear your swimsuit before the tour as time on the pontoon is limited.

DAY 3 – Broome - Fitzroy Crossing

This morning we depart Broome for Derby where we visit the Boab Prison Tree and Derby Wharf before visiting an Art gallery. Later today we arrive at Fitzroy crossing for our overnight stay. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 – Fitzroy Crossing – Mt Hart Station

Our highlight for the morning is a visit to Dimalurru (Tunnel Creek), where water has carved a large tunnel through the limestone Napier Ranges.

At 750m long and up to 20m in height in places, this was formed 350 million years ago as part of an ocean reef system.

Later we continue on to Mt Hart Station. Steeped in history, the property was established back in 1914 as a working cattle station until it was declassified in 2000 and is now located on the lands of the Ngarinyin people.

Our stay for the next two nights is in unique safari style tents and this evening we enjoy a few drinks at the Settlers Bar before dinner. (B,L,D)

** We recommend packing water/reef shoes to take part in the Tunnel Creek walk.

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DAY 5 – Mt Hart Station

Today we explore the beauty of Mt Hart's vast wilderness. Travelling in specially built open back safari trucks for Outback Spirit, we take in the true appreciation of the stunning natural landscape.

Your guides will provide commentary on Mt Hart's National Park programs, we visit Barkers Pool, Dolerite Gorge and enjoy a picnic lunch at one of the waterholes.

This afternoon we return to camp where the remainder of the day is at leisure with the opportunity to walk and explore the gardens near the lodge area. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 – Mt Hart - Bell Gorge - Drysdale River Station

Today we travel back along the Gibb River Road and through the Wunaamin Miliwundi Ranges (formerly known as King Leopold Ranges) before visiting Bell Gorge, one of the most spectacular gorges in the Kimberley. Take a guided walk down to the falls (good level of fitness and manoeuvrability is required) and enjoy a swim in the rock pools at the top of the waterfall. Admire the view down this enormous canyon that eventually flows into Walcott Inlet.

After a picnic lunch we depart Bell Gorge and continue along the Gibb through Mount Barnett and onto the Kalumburu Road 'Y' junction. From here we head north to arrive at Drysdale River Station late afternoon. We overnight here in comfortable station cabins with private ensuite bathrooms. Enjoy the unique and authentic atmosphere of this privately owned one million acre station which runs 9,000 head of cattle. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 – King Edward Art Sites - Mitchell Plateau

This morning we continue north along the Kalumburu Road before turning onto the Mitchell Plateau track. After fording the King Edward River we'll visit a series of spectacular Wanjina rock art galleries, known as some of the best in the Kimberley.

Drive through ancient Livistona Palm forests before arriving at our exclusive Ngauwudu Safari Camp, the most luxurious tented camp in the Kimberley. Featuring deluxe safari suites with ensuite bathrooms, quality furnishings and large balconies, the camp is a magical spot for the next

two nights of our adventure and the ideal base from which to discover the Mitchell Plateau and Mitchell Falls. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 – Exploring Punamii-Uunpuu (Mitchell Falls)

A big walk today, but also a big highlight! After a short drive to the ranger station we'll set off on a guided 4km walking tour to the incredible Mitchell Falls (good level of fitness and mobility required). Along the way we'll discover rarely seen Gwion and Wanjina rock art galleries, accompanied by a local expert guide from Kandiwal Community. The walk also takes us past Mertens Falls before arriving at the top of the Mitchell Falls, one of the most awe-inspiring wonders of the Kimberley.

After a picnic lunch and enough time to admire the falls we'll take to the skies for a spectacular helicopter flight (included) back to where the walk started. Viewing the falls and surrounding landscape from the air is an absolute highlight, and a great way to finish off the experience! Once we're on the ground at the ranger station, we return to the camp for a well-earned rest and perhaps a swim in the palm fringed creek. (B,L,D)

Please Note: For passengers not wishing to do the Mitchell Falls walk there is an option to fly down by helicopter. An Outback Spirit guide will still escort you. The flight cost is \$179.00 per person (own expense).

DAY 9 – Mitchell Plateau - El Questro Wilderness Park

This morning we farewell the Mitchell Plateau and head back to the Kalumburu Road before re-joining the Gibb. We then continue east and cross the Durack River before arriving at the mighty Pentecost River at the foot of the Cockburn Range. We stop to admire the view of the stunning escarpment before continuing on to the world renowned El Questro Wilderness Park where we'll spend the next two nights at Emma Gorge Resort in unique tented cabins. (B,L,D)

DAY 10 – Exploring El Questro

You'd be hard pressed to find a better way to start a day than a swim in the warm crystal clear water at Zebedee Thermal Springs! Spend a relaxing morning here before visiting the hub of El Questro - the station township. We then return to Emma Gorge for lunch, followed by an afternoon at your leisure. You can choose to relax in the

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surrounds of the resort, or take a guided walk up to the stunning Emma Gorge waterfall (2.5 hours return - a good level of fitness required, but well worth it). Either way, you are sure to appreciate some time to yourself in this magnificent Kimberley setting. (B,L,D)

DAY 11 – El Questro - Bungle Bungles

Today we reach the end of the Gibb River Road and travel to Wyndham and the sensational Five Rivers lookout. Enjoy morning tea and admire the views over Cambridge Gulf before heading further south to the World Heritage Listed Purnululu National Park (the Bungle Bungles). Owned by Outback Spirit in partnership with Aviair/Helispirit, Bungle Bungle Savannah Lodge will be home for the next two nights in unique cabins with ensuite bathrooms. (B,L,D)

DAY 12 – Exploring the Bungle Bungles

Today we explore the wonders of Purnululu, including its unique orange and black beehive shaped domes. First up, enjoy a breathtaking 18 minute scenic helicopter flight over the park with a bird's eye view of its astounding natural features. Afterwards, enjoy a walk along Piccaninny Creek to the mind boggling natural amphitheatre of Cathedral Gorge and follow the 'dome trail' for a closer inspection of the park's unique geological formations.

This afternoon we'll head to the northern region of the Bungle Bungles to visit Echidna Chasm before returning to the lodge. (B,L,D)

DAY 13 – Ord River Cruise - Kununurra

This morning we depart the Bungle Bungles and travel back up the Great Northern Highway passing through Kununurra and heading up to Lake Argyle, with a visit to the historic Durack Homestead en route. After a picnic lunch at the dam wall we board an exhilarating three hour cruise down the spectacular Ord River and learn about the Ord River Irrigation Scheme from your knowledgeable skipper, arriving in Kununurra just as the sun seeks the horizon. We then check in to the Kununurra Country Club Resort for our overnight stay. (B,L,D)

DAY 14 – Kununurra - Katherine

This morning we depart Kununurra and travel along the Victoria Highway towards Katherine, crossing over the border into the Northern Territory. We'll pass through

Timber Creek and Victoria River before arriving in Katherine this afternoon in time for a town tour. Our overnight stay is at the luxurious Cicada Lodge, which is located close to the gorge. (B,L,D)

DAY 15 – Katherine - Kakadu National Park - Cooida

This morning enjoy one of the most famous cruises in the Northern Territory, the Katherine River Gorge cruise in Nitmiluk National Park. Carved through ancient sandstone by the Katherine River, this deep gorge with towering sheer rock walls is one of the most stunning in the Territory. Enjoy a two hour cruise in a canopied cruise boat before making our way north along the Stuart Highway. We then take the Kakadu Highway into the iconic Kakadu National Park. This afternoon we check in to the Cooida Lodge Kakadu for our two night stay. (B,L,D)

DAY 16 – The Mystery of Arnhem Land

The day begins with breathtaking views over the Arnhem Land floodplains from Ubirr Rock, where you'll also explore ancient rock art sites. Then, ford the East Alligator River and venture into Arnhem Land for a visit to the Injalak Arts & Crafts Centre, Gunbalanya. Here, watch talented artists create exquisite pieces right before your eyes!

This afternoon we return to Cooida and enjoy the renowned wildlife cruise on Yellow Water Billabong. You'll be amazed at the diversity of this extraordinary wetland ecosystem and associated wildlife. We then return to the lodge for our final night in Kakadu. (B,L,D)

DAY 17 – Cooida - Darwin

This morning we depart Cooida and head to Litchfield National Park, where waterfalls cascade off the Tabletop Ranges into tranquil waterholes. Explore Florence & Wangi Falls and enjoy a picnic lunch before departing the park and making our way to Darwin.

We arrive late afternoon and check in to harbour view rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn Darwin (Formerly The Doubletree by Hilton) for our final night together. This evening we board the Charles Darwin for a delicious Territory-style sunset dinner cruise and celebrate a truly amazing trip! (B,L,D)

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DAY 18 – Darwin

This morning enjoy a city sights tour including Cullen Bay, Stokes Hill Wharf and the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (subject to opening hours). (B)

Every effort will be made by your crew to ensure that the above itinerary is followed. However, Outback Spirit reserves the right to alter the itinerary once on tour as required due to weather and track conditions or other operational considerations.