

Group and Private Charter Information Kit

WAYOUTBACK

Desert Safaris

Red Centre  Australia





Wayoutback is a 4-Wheel Drive adventure tour specialist operating in Central Australia since 1999. Our mission is and has always been to give our customers an opportunity to not just visit the Red Centre, but to really experience the desert. To achieve this, there are a number of factors that combine so you begin to feel part of the desert, its massive expanse and the timelessness it engenders.

- **Aboriginal Experiences** - We include genuine indigenous interaction on our safaris so you get an authentic understanding of the original inhabitant's history and relationship with the land from their perspective.
- **4-Wheel Drives** - Our fleet of 4-Wheel Drive vehicles are specially modified for the rugged terrain to get you off the sealed roads and onto bush roads and tracks.
- **Remote Camp Sites** - Our private camps are well away from other tour companies so you get that wonderful feeling of solitude and don't feel part of the tourist throng.
- **Bush Living** - We cook our food over the camp fire and sleep under the stars in swags (Aussie bush bed) so you drift off to sleep around the camp fire with the brilliant southern stars above. Tents are also available free of charge.

We are based in Alice Springs and operate solely in Central Australia so we believe we have a comprehensive understanding of the geographical area, the local Aboriginal people, not to mention a network of contacts for specialist requirements such as Aboriginal Hosts and Communities, Bush Tucker, Geology, Cattle Stations, etc.

Special Access Areas

Wayoutback has exclusive rights to explore two of Central Australia's most famous cattle stations between Uluru and Watarrka (Kings Canyon).

We can take your group right off the beaten track where no other tours can venture into true 4-wheel drive only areas. You will realise the magnitude, remoteness and isolation of the area, see some amazing wildlife (Red Kangaroos, Dingo's and Camels) and stunning scenery – all typical of the desert/arid lands of the Red Centre.

Indigenous Experiences

If you're interested in meeting with some local Aboriginal people and experiencing some of their unique culture, we can include a visit to the inspirational Oak Valley Aboriginal Community on the Hugh River Stock Route, south of Alice Springs.

For a really in-depth insight into Aboriginal life and history we have Aboriginal Hosts that can join our safaris. They get involved in the day-to-day operation - cooking traditional foods by traditional methods, imparting their knowledge of the bush and sharing cultural stories applicable to their area.



We can also arrange an Aboriginal Guided Kuniya Walk at Uluru which facilitates an authentic cultural exchange between the local custodians and visitors.

A visit to the Lilla Aboriginal Community adjacent to Kings Canyon (Watarrka) is also an option with a guided Willy Wagtail walk with Sadie Williams or one of her family.

Advanced Ecotourism Accredited

Wayoutback is the only Advanced Eco Accredited Tour Operation in the Northern Territory. It is the highest acknowledgement for environmental understanding, operational practices and cultural representation as defined by Ecotourism Australia.

Additionally, Wayoutback Desert Safari guides are trained in-house by the only Peak Accredited Eco Guide in Central Australia.

GROUP CHARTERS

Since we began in 1999, Wayoutback Desert Safaris have been running tailor made Group Tours/Safaris for families, educational organisations, film crews, special interest and special needs groups. While our company ethos is based on small group adventure tours, we can cater to any group size with our extensive vehicle range. By combining a number of vehicles, all with 4WD capability, we can provide your group with a 'Real Outback Experience' no matter what the size.

Travel Writers, Photography, Film and Television -

If you have an assignment in Central Australia, we can assist with our specialist knowledge of the region, provide modern 4-wheel drive vehicles, comprehensive equipment inventory, highly trained Guides and Aboriginal Hosts.

Special Interest - Whether it's geology, botany, aboriginal culture and art or the huge range of fauna, our 4-wheel drives can get you to the right place for an experience to remember.

Educational - From school trips right through to university study tours, tell us what the mission is and we will deliver.

Business Organisations - What better way to build Team Leadership, motivation and bond people within an organisation than a trip into the heart of the outback. We have catered to groups from some of Australia's largest corporations, so we understand what can really make your business adventure tour "go off".



Itinerary Planning

With our extensive contacts and experience, we can help organise your whole itinerary from start to finish. Everything from your menu requirements (including special dietary needs) beverages, accommodation, site selection, plus any other adventure experiences you may want to include such as helicopter flights and quad biking - just let us know and we will do the rest.

PRIVATE CHARTERS

An Outback Safari of Your Own Making....

Ever dreamt of experiencing the heartbeat of the Red Centre - cooking over a campfire, sleeping out under the stars in a swag with no-one for miles around except your friends, family or colleagues? With a Private Charter you can do exactly that but without all the logistical hassles and equipment needs that come with self drive.

With a Private Charter it becomes your OWN tour - your itinerary, your time frame, your pace! Should you want to change your itinerary during the course of the safari, then so be it. This is not possible on a standard safari.

One of the main concerns with regular tours is the possibility of personality issues arising with a group of people thrown together that don't know each other. With a Private Charter this dynamic is somewhat eliminated so you can get on with just enjoying your adventure.

Getting off the Beaten Track

With a Private Charter we can utilise tracks and locations that would not normally be available on a standard tour as they are not accessible to others or permission cannot be obtained by others. This will expose you to the real outback and you will see fantastic wildlife rarely seen by others.

Realising the true outback is not gained from travelling on sealed roads in 24 - 40 seat coaches. Our purpose built 4-Wheel Drive vehicles (max. 14) can go where no others can so you will feel the heartbeat of the Red Centre.

Experienced and Passionate Guides

Private Charters only attract our most experienced "bushman" guides who have a total passion for the region with in-depth knowledge of local flora, fauna, geology and Aboriginal / Anangu cultural issues to match.

With the remote regions we visit, you can feel safe in the knowledge that any little quirks and warning signs of the bush and the weather are picked up and acted on, influences which can make or break your charter.

Itinerary and Meals

With Private Charter your meals will be based around a mixture of our suggestions and the wants and needs of your group. This is extremely important when considering children. Similarly, beverages (alcoholic and non alcoholic) are catered to your requirement.

VEHICLES

We operate a range of vehicle types depending on the specific requirements of our passengers including group size. All our vehicles are late model and have been modified or Custom built to suit our harsh Central Australian outback conditions. To complement the vehicles we have a range of heavy duty trailers for carriage of supplies, water and baggage.

Toyota Troop Carriers -

New Camel of the Outback

We operate six Toyota Landcruiser Troopcarriers that carry a maximum of 9 passengers. Troopcarriers are a tough all round 4WD, capable of tackling the roughest bush tracks Central Australia can offer:

Mitsubishi Canter 4-Wheel Drives -

the Ridgee Didge Machine...

Our three 15 seat, 4 litre Intercooled Turbo Mitsubishi Canters are purpose built 4-wheel drives with a pod that carries 12 passengers, with the driver and 2 passengers seated in the cab.

Toyota Landcruiser GXL -

For those Seeking a little More Comfort

For small group Private Charters we utilise the Turbo Charged Toyota Landcruiser GXL which is Toyota's luxury 4WD. This vehicle seats 4 adults plus our driver comfortably and can carry a further 3 in the rear (suitable for kids).



Campsites

Being great fans of bush camping and sleeping under the stars, our main focus is on 4WD adventure tours. To this end we avoid "permanent campsites" with tents and buildings, etc, which we call soft camping.

Our private bush camps are well away from other tour operations with only essential elements provided. This includes a shelter for eating and socializing, as well as taking cover in case of inclement weather. We also have shower and bathroom facilities at most campsites.

We have a private bush camp at Ayers Rock Resort where camping on the surrounding aboriginal land, as well as on the Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park, is prohibited. Our camp is well away from other groups at the base of a large sand dune under desert oak trees.

One of our most popular private camps is at Kings Creek Station not far from Kings Canyon. This site was first set up and utilised by the Conway's who own Kings Creek Station. They ran some of the first tours in the area many years ago. The site is miles from the crowds and has stunning views out to the George Gill Ranges, perfect for watching the sun set.

Another beautiful campsite is at the Oak Valley Aboriginal Community south of Alice Springs. Aside from the raw beauty of the area, there is great opportunity to interact with some of the local aboriginals that run the Community.

We have “Bush Camps” at Glen Helen in the West MacDonnell Ranges and the Finke River.

Going Bush

We can take your group right off the beaten track into true 4-wheel drive areas where you will realise the absolute remoteness and isolation of the area, see some amazing wildlife (Red Kangaroos, Dingos and Camels) and stunning scenery – all typical of the desert / arid lands of the Red Centre.

Our knowledge of the area means we have a number of bush camps we can visit for some “wild” camping. Toilet facilities are usually available in these circumstances.

Accommodation

Aside from bush camping, we can also cater to any accommodation requirements, from tents to 4 or 5 star Hotels. It could be a mixture of both so you can break up your trip and enjoy the best of both worlds.

There are accommodation options available at Alice Springs, Ayers Rock Resort and Kings Creek ranging from budget to 5 stars.

Please discuss your individual requirements with us.

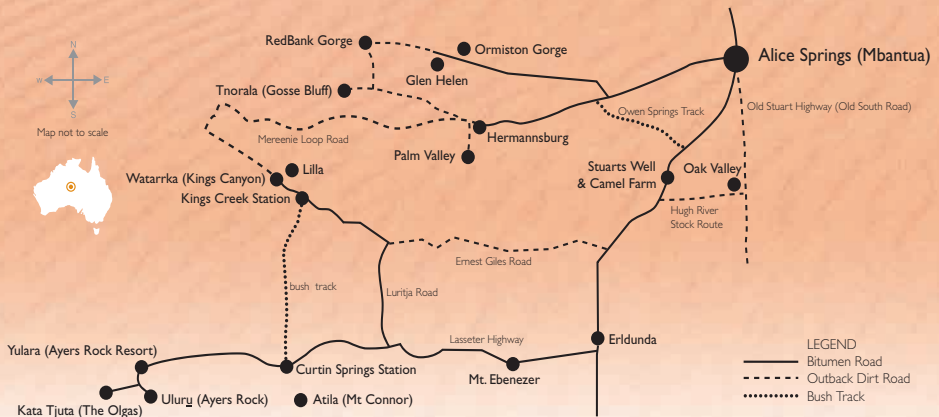
WHAT TO SEE AND DO

Contrary to what many people assume, Central Australia is anything but a flat monotonous desert. There are a number of ancient mountain ranges, flat salt pans, rolling desert sand country, spinifex plains and desert oak country, all of which make the Red Centre such an awe inspiring region to visit.

Alice Springs

Framed by the MacDonnell Ranges and an intense desert landscape, the township of Alice Springs is Australia's most famous outback town. Situated just 200 kilometres south of the geographic centre of Australia, the town of Alice Springs began as a repeater station along the Overland Telegraph Line.

Alice Springs desert climate and landscapes encourage a healthy outdoor lifestyle and sets a great scene for outback adventure. There is quad and mountain-bike riding, ballooning or a helicopter ride over the desert landscape or visit the renowned Desert Park where you can learn all about the extremely diverse range of arid land flora and fauna. If you want a hands-on wildlife experience, head to the Alice Springs Reptile Centre. There is an extensive range of reptiles in the Park and you can get up close and personal with many of the non-venomous types, such as the huge Perentie Goanna, Frill Neck Lizard or Thorny Devil.



The MacDonnell Ranges

Alice Springs is located at the base of the MacDonnell Ranges which stretch for over 400km in an east-west direction in parallel ridges with flat valleys between. Being so old and weathered, the ranges generally extend up only around 300 metres from the valley floor but are a sensational sight and more importantly, facilitate a number of permanent water holes and provide sanctuary to a large number of plant and animal species.

The West MacDonnell ranges provide a host of fantastic gorges and water holes such as Standley Chasm, Redbank Gorge, Glen Helen and Ormiston Gorge. It is also home to the famous Larapinta Walking Trail which extends from one end of the ranges to the other.

Walking Country - The Larapinta Trail

The Larapinta Trail is a world renowned wilderness walk that extends over 223 kilometres along the backbone of the West MacDonnell Ranges from Alice Springs to Mount Sonder. Winding along its ridges, waterholes, gorges and ancient rocks, the Larapinta Trail takes you into a landscape of incomparable beauty and power. The Trail encompasses some of the key attractions of the Ranges including Simpsons Gap, Ellery Creek Big Hole, Ormiston Gorge and Glen Helen.

Hermannsburg and Gosse Bluff

West of Alice Springs lies Hermannsburg, an aboriginal community and home of a Lutheran Mission established in 1877.

A little further around the Mereenie Loop road lies Gosse Bluff, an ancient comet crater with a 5km rim that extends about 150 meters above the plains – an awesome sight.

Palm Valley

Also quite close to Hermannsburg lies Palm Valley which is part of the 460sq. km Finke Gorge National Park. Palm Valley gets its name from the oasis of lush Red Cabbage Palms (*Livistona Mariae*) that reside there. There are about 1,200 of these relics from wetter times, many growing to more than 25 meters.

Kings Canyon (Watarrka)

A little further around the Mereenie Loop road lies Kings Canyon, the second biggest attraction in Central Australia after Uluru/Kata Tjuta. Other than the Canyon's stunning geography, the site is also well known as the location of the cult movie 'Priscilla Queen of the Desert'.

Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park

Another 120km or so further south-east lie Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) which rise approximately 350 and 500 metres respectively from the desert floor. They form part of and are the star attractions of the Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park which now attracts more than 400,000 visitors a year.

There is much to do in the Park, from a stop at the Visitors Centre where you can learn a great deal about local Anangu (aboriginal custodians) and their culture, through to a base walk, the aboriginal guided Kuniya Walk and of course the famous changing colours that happen at sunrise and sunset .

Nor far from Uluru lie the wonderfully shaped domes of conglomerate rock that form Kata Tjuta (many heads). The Valley of the Winds walk is a spectacular 7 km hike through the mighty domes that leave you with a feeling of awe.

HOW MUCH TIME DO I NEED

Central Australia is a big land area with often large distances between attractions. Many people often get caught out by underestimating the time needed to explore the Red Centre.

As a general guideline, if you are wanting to explore the most popular attractions such as Uluru, Kata Tjuta and Kings Canyon then we would recommend you allow a minimum of 3 days but preferably 4 - 5.

If you want to include Palm Valley and the West MacDonnell Ranges then you need to add another 2 - 3 days onto your itinerary.

If you would like to walk some of the Larapinta Trail then best to look at our itineraries we offer on the Larapinta section of our website.



CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

JAMES - Intrepid Travel Representative

Hi Phil

I've not had chance to drop you a line since our trip to Central Oz late last month.

I can only speak positively of the experience. The trip exceeded all of our expectations in so many ways – sleeping in swags, spending time with Craig at his Aboriginal community, and my personal highlight...camping in the middle of no-where on night two! Of course the attractions of Uluru & Kings Canyon were also great, made even better by the way we were carefully navigated away from the crowds – in particular the Uluru sunset with just the four of us at the campsite rather than going to the viewing point.



All of this was made possible by our fantastic leader Andrew Lawson. Between Natalie & myself we've travelled on over 20 Intrepid trips, and we can say with no hesitation that Andrew was one of the best leaders either of us have had guide a trip. His knowledge was fantastic, the trip ran perfectly, he took us away from the crowds & shared many a real life experience! The next time we travel within Australia we'd certainly want Andrew to be our leader.

Thanks again for an excellent trip. Cheers James.

THE KLUCKOWS - Sydney Australia

Just a short note to let you know that we all thoroughly enjoyed the trip - great weather, great sights, great camping and Caz was 'awesome' in the words of all of our kids. It really is important when you are out for 5-6 days with one guide to have someone who is likely to be compatible with the group as well as resourceful, full of information and enthusiastic. Our kids really bounced off her enthusiasm from the first minute we met her to the last night out in Alice. Caz was a perfect choice and really made our trip - Thanks!

Wayoutback's concept of smaller groups and organised exclusive/bush camping in isolated places is what most people I know want to do. I encourage you guys to continue to offer the small group/ unique camp site experience and try and attract family groups who may not have camped much before and may not have even considered a camping trip because of pre conceptions. Your web site can help draw these groups in - photos (lots) are really important and certainly influenced our decision to go with you. Our kids took almost 600 digital shots!

There is no doubt that we will recommend Wayoutback to our friends as the perfect way to experience what the NT has to offer. It was a great experience and our kids (and us) will remember the million star hotels we stayed in way after the memories of the alternative of the 4/5 Star resorts would have faded into just another hotel! Another special thanks to Caz - she really was exceptional in her approach to our trip and all aspects of the experience.

Regards,

Martin Kluckow & Philippa Ramsay.

LIKE NOTHING I'VE EVER BEEN ON

These tours are highly dependent on the enthusiasm & quality of the Guide - Phil was fantastic - A genuine Aussie, patient, highly competent and well educated culturally, botanically etc etc. Again many thanks Phil, we really had a lot of fun and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Great variety & diversity of Sites and Camping locations. We enjoyed & learnt a lot from Phil's education sessions. Phil was flexible, patient and very personable. I really appreciated his ability to handle all types of people.

Well Done Phil - how one pulls out all these amazing places combined with the day to day responsibilities and stay sane amazes. I had a hell of a time - Thanks.

The constant variety given constraints that bobbed up was amazing. Loved the Learning - about everything - A major highlight for me.

ESTER MOSOV AND FRIENDS

Estonia.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Following is a list of inclusions we are able to cater for....

Meet and greet prior to tour with your guide prior to touring with courtesy collection from your accommodation.

Vehicles and operation

Late model, purpose built, air-conditioned 4-Wheel Drive vehicles with trailers for carriage of all supplies and baggage for the tour duration. All vehicles are Government accredited.

Reference material in vehicles including binoculars.

Guides

Fully qualified, First Aid Accredited local Eco-Guide proficient in all aspects of geology, indigenous history, culture, flora, fauna and insects.

All guides are experienced 4-wheel drive operators.

Equipment

Purpose designed swags (Aussie bush bed) including doona, woollen blankets, sleeping bags, pillow and fleece sheets. Swags are a larger single size with high density foam mattress for added comfort and back support.

Tents can be provided for those with creepy crawly paranoia. If required the participant/s will be required to assist with erection. We do not openly promote the need for tents.

All cooking and refrigeration equipment. Can be used for safe storage of Medicinal items e.g. Insulin, etc.

Supply of all cutlery in accordance with the NT Government Food and Health Act.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

As we are camping you will need to be prepared for this. You'll need to bring a flashlight (torch), hat (wide brimmed best), sunscreen, insect repellent, a fly net (summer), any required medication, water bottle (at least 1.5 litres), walking shoes/boots (we do a lot of walking/climbing), warm clothing (winter), sleeping bag, toiletries, swim wear, towel, camera, extra film or batteries and a great sense of humour.

Terms and Conditions

THE FINE PRINT

Wayoutback Desert Safaris Pty Limited reserves the right to amend safari times, itineraries and fares for its safaris as circumstances, time of year and operational reasons occur. There will be no refunds in these circumstances or for reasons such as delays incurred due to mechanical failure or weather conditions. Wayoutback Desert Safaris cannot guarantee exact pick-up and drop-off times and will accept no responsibility in the event of cancellation fees from other connecting services. Balances paid by credit card are subject to merchant levy. Wayoutback Desert Safaris accepts no responsibility for any injury, illness or other such accident sustained whilst on safari with Wayoutback or while engaged in any activities with other tourist operators that may not be part of the Wayoutback itinerary but available during a Wayoutback safari. Visits to Oak Valley and Lilla Aboriginal Communities and the Kuniya Walk although brochured are not guaranteed, however, if not visited the fare for this component will be refunded or not charged. Wayoutback Desert Safaris accepts no liability for lost, stolen or damaged property and strongly recommends clients have Travel Insurance, including Cancellation Cover. Cancellation fees apply.

**PLEASE NOTE, IT IS IMPORTANT ALL CUSTOMERS ARE AWARE OF
WAYOUTBACK'S FINE PRINT POLICIES INCLUDING CANCELLATION FEES.**

Notice and Cancellation Fees:

OVER 30 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE - the deposit will be refunded in full.

30 - 14 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE - 25% of the estimated value of the tour will be charged.

13 - 3 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE - 50% of the estimated value of the tour will be charged.

WITHIN 72 HOURS WRITTEN NOTICE - 75% of the estimated value of the tour will be charged.

WITHIN 24 HOURS WRITTEN NOTICE - 100% of the estimated value of the tour will be charged.

**INFORMATION VALID AT TIME OF DISTRIBUTION.
FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION, PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE
WWW.WAYOUTBACK.COM**

WAYOUTBACK

Desert Safaris

Groups and private charters

BOOKINGS: 1300 551 510 (within Australia)

From 8am to 5pm central standard time

(call mobile number below outside these times)

PHONE: +61 8 8952 4324. FAX: +61 8 8952 7079. MOBILE: 0417 859 610 (after hours)

WEBSITE: www.wayoutback.com EMAIL: reservations@wayoutback.com.au