

MEDITATION in the DESERT – ADD ON TOUR 9TH – 13TH SEPTEMBER 2014

5 Day/4 Night Red Centre Experience with Wayoutback Safaris



Add to the opportunity of being in this part of the country to take a trip with fellow retreatants to Uluru (Ayers Rock) and KataJuta (Olgas), along with Wattaka (Kings Canyon) and another Indigenous experience with the aboriginal community at Oak Valley. Highly recommended!

Wayoutback Australian Safaris specialise in small, attentive tours that can provide great food and direct access to the local Indigenous people and their culture. We have selected them for the Add on tour to be in keeping with the retreat and because they offer a great itinerary.

THE ITINERARY

PRE TOUR INTRODUCTION and BRIEFING – 5.30pm Monday September 8th

Staff from Wayoutback Safaris will meet with all attendees at The Chifley to introduce the tour.

Please Note: *Meditation in the Desert* finishes on Sunday 7th September. Following the experience and feedback from previous retreats, there will be a free day in Alice Springs on Monday the 8th; then the Add on Tour will set off on Tuesday the 9th September.

Day 1 (Lunch & Dinner) – 8am Tuesday September 9th

We will collect you from the Chifley at 9am and then its good bye civilization, hello nature & peace ‘n quiet.

Our journey travels via the Gillen Range system into the West MacDonnell Ranges travelling toward Ellery Creek Big Hole, the Ochre Pits, Ormiston Gorge and finally Glen Helen Gorge. The scenery is stunning and there will be opportunities to swim at these beautiful locations. This region is steeped in Arrente Aboriginal “dreamtime”.

Our aim today is to trek 3-4 hours of the least known section of the Larapinta Trail “The Pound Walk at Ormiston”. Considered by the locals as the jewel in the crown, this walk embraces all the wonders of the Central Australian outback, rugged, raw beauty, colorful & spectacular visions, enormity, solitude and an absolute uplifting experience. Surprises could include Black Footed Rock Wallabys and reptiles and later in the afternoon, possibly Red kangaroo & Dingo etc.

For those who prefer, there is the option of taking a shorter walk or simply being amidst the beauty of Glen Helen itself – a fabulous place for photography or drawing. A helicopter flight opportunity (at extra cost) exists from Glen Helen for those wishing to be mesmerized by the beautiful land formations of the West MacDonnell’s from aloft.

Our campsite tonight will be at a remote location nestled against the Yeperenye Hills overlooking Mount Sonder and the West Macs. This is absolutely wild and exclusive to our select tours.

Day 2 (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

This morning we will pack & break camp at leisure and impart on the trail towards Kings Canyon via the notorious Mereenie Loop Road. This travel includes areas of enormous aboriginal dreamtime significance and also “sorry” lands. Experiences will include Tnorala(Gosse Bluff), Krichauff & Razorback Ranges, Missionary Plain, McGintys Lookout and finally the Canyon. Wildlife aplenty usually abounds this area including the wild “whaler” horses (brumby), donkeys, camels, dingo & red kangaroo but certainly not limited to those specie.

Upon arrival at Kings Canyon Resort we will re-fuel, lunch, swim etc before the short 10 minute drive to arguably Central Australia’s best kept secret - the Kings Canyon Rim Walk, 3 - 4 hours of botanical brilliance, cultural mystique, geological amazement and sheer gob smacking beauty.

The walk features the Amphitheatre, Corroboree Rock, ancient fossils, the Canyon Wall, the Lost City and the refreshing Garden of Eden. Acknowledged as the least known of the three main icons but regarded by many as the best. This walk in the afternoon will be peaceful – the hordes did it in the morning. The photographic light on the Canyon Wall will defy belief. A truly exhilarating experience awaits.

Tonight we will return to Kings Creek Station and another of our remote campsites out in the bush. This is a beautiful and isolated campsite with unique bush shower and toilet facilities. Another wonderful night under the stars away from the crowds and noise, except the possible howling of a dingo in the distance.

For those wanting that little extra experience, the helicopter crew at Kings Creek Stationn will fly you around the cattle station and land you at our remote campsite just prior to sunset. This cost is not included and can be negotiated with the guide closer to the time.

Day 3 (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

The rising sun is our alarm clock, a fine breakfast, pack and we will continue the journey towards the Uluru, Kata Tjuta National Park. Features along the journey will include the George Gill Ranges, Australia’s rare stand of the mighty Desert Oak, Lake Amadeus, Mount Connor (Atilla) and Curtin Springs Cattle Station – a must stop and have a laugh location.

This afternoon after lunch we will trek the enormous spiritual domal location known as Kata tjuta (more commonly the Olgas). Just let this location impart its significance upon you.

This evening we will travel to an exclusive location for sunset over Uluru. A sparkling wine, light refreshments and nibbles will be made available. Shortly after we will relocate to our tented sites at Yulara. For those totally into the outback way of sleep, the swags, open fire and the southern milky way can again accompany you.

Day 4 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

This morning we are up before the birds to catch sunrise over Uluru and Kata Tjuta, a site to behold. Walking the base of Uluru as the sunrises is extremely emotional & powerful and will include the two interpretative Mala & Kuniya walks.

Then a visit to the Cultural Centre and its galleries is mandatory – wonderful shopping opportunities! Lunch and we visit the small village of Yulara for any last minute acquisitions before we depart, heading towards Alice Springs and the Aboriginal Community of Oak Valley.

Our journey will include stops again at Curtin Springs, Mount Ebenezer and Erldunda before we travel the Hugh Stock Route, cross the Hugh River arriving at the unique Oak Valley location. Please refer to the following link for more information :-

<http://www.wayoutback.com.au/destinations/places-we-visit/oak-valley-aboriginal-community/>

Tonight again - under the stars, around the fire . Remember it is your last such evening and what a peaceful place to be.

Day 5 (Breakfast & Lunch)

A very steady pace this morning as we await the arrival of our local land owners.

After introductions we travel a short distance out “to country” and be entranced about the local history & culture of the Oak valley Region.

Located in the Horne Land Formation you will visit one of Australia’s oldest under water fossil fields. Be mesmerized how such a hard looking country can be so productive in food and the rare abilities of the traditional people to survive in such an environment.

We return to camp for Lunch before departing up the old south road (the former main link to Adelaide) via the Ewaninga Rock Carving Site before returning to the creature comforts of Alice Springs.

Tonight you can return to normality at your accommodation, however, we trust you will remember your experience in “our country” as one of the very best.

COST : \$1150 (inc GST) secured with a \$200 deposit; balance due 30 days prior: August 10th.
This fee covers all travel, accommodation and meals as set out in the itinerary above.
We have negotiated with Outback Safaris that if 15 or more people register, everyone will be notified before August 10th and the total fee will be reduced to just \$990.

BOOKINGS : Need to be made directly with the tour operators:
Call Wayoutback Safaris on 08 8952 4324 and mention the *Meditation in the Desert tour*
Or email: admin@wayoutback.com.au Visit their website at www.wayoutback.com.au



What Wayoutback supply

- Accredited Outback Tour Guides
- Wilderness & Senior First Aid trained Guides
- Uluru Kata Tjuta / Kakadu Accredited Eco Guides
- Fully Air Conditioned 4x4 Vehicles
- All on tour meals, fruit, snacks & light beverage, most dietary conditions catered for – pre tour advice essential
- A Complimentary Sparkling Wine at Uluru Sunset
- All Equipment (Safety & Camping) necessary for the experience
- Tents will be provided for those with creepy crawly paranoia
- Stretcher Beds can be supplied
- Swags are fitted with Sheets, Pillows, Duna/Duve & Blankets
- Water Bottles and replenishment supplies
- Fly Nets & Repellant
- All National Park & Aboriginal Cultural Fees where applicable
- Reading Material
- Binoculars
- Transfers to & from Airports as arranged

What you Supply

- Personal Apparel and personal effects, please refer to :- <http://www.wayoutback.com.au/about-us/faq/>
- Camera (charged batteries) etc – 240volt power may not exist where we will be visiting or camping
- Broad Brimmed Hat, Sunglasses & Sunscreen
- A Hands Free Headlight/Torch is recommended for all camping tours
- Trekking Tours recommend Trek Poles or walking Aids
- Spending money (souvenirs, scenic flights etc)
- A good sense of humor, a keen sense for adventure and a “can do” attitude

Special Note :- Locations within the tour could be heavily governed in regards to the consumption of alcohol. There may be locations where consumption may not be permitted at all. We will have cooling facilities aboard the vehicle. Alcohol can be supplied by us at an additional cost or you can supply.

Remember :-

**“Masses go Outback ...
Only the enlightened few go Wayoutback”**