## Larapinta Trail as well as Uluru and Kata Tjuta

#### PROPOSED ITINRARY

A guide will accompany you each day as you discover the highlights of the Larapinta Trail, explore the remote Kings Canyon and take in Uluru and Kata Tjuta from below. On some of the more challenging walks two guides will accompany the group, to offer more options.

Some of the walks on The Larapinta Trail, King's Canyon and Kata Tjuta include quite steep and rocky sections; but, with a moderate level of fitness, each walk is enjoyable! We highly recommend that you do some training beforehand, especially walking steps and doing some training on rocky terrain.

Most walks along the Larapinta Trail will be in one direction whereas the walks around Uluru, Kata Tjuta and Kings Canyon are circuit walks. You are always welcome to take a day off walking. We will try to help you find suitable alternative activities.



\*The itinerary may alter depending on extreme weather conditions and heat.

Day 1: Alice Spring Arrival Day

#### NO WALKING

Day 1 of your tour is an arrival day. Feel free to arrive at any time and make your way to the accommodation for a 2pm check-in.

Meet your guides for a 5.30pm welcome meeting and a brief about the upcoming tour. The meet and greet will then be followed by a lovely group dinner at a restaurant.Accommodation: Mercure Alice SpringsMeals: **D** 



# Day 2: Larapinta Trail – Telegraph Station to Wallaby Gap

#### <u>13.5KM</u>

We depart Alice Springs town after breakfast and head just out of town to the Telegraph Station. From here we start our walk on the Larapinta Trail and as we head along the ridges just behind Alice Springs town we start getting our first glimpses of the seemingly endless mountain ranges all around us. From Wallaby Gap we will head back to Alice Springs for one night. While you unpack your guides will prepare a 2-course dinner.

#### Accommodation: Mercure Alice Springs



# Day 3: Larapinta Trail – Reveal Saddle and Standley Chasm

#### <u>12KM + 2KM</u>

Today we drive out to Standley Chasm from where we start our walk on The Larapinta Trail up to Reveal Saddle and back. As we make our way along the creek bed and then slowly start climbing up through the valley to the top, you would never have anticipated the stunning views you get rewarded with once at the top. Spot the odd Cycad hidden away in the gullies and enjoy an array of flowers and River Red Gum Trees in the creek bed. In the afternoon you will have time for the short walk (2km) up into Standley Chasm. From Standley Chasm we then make our way to Glen Helen to settle in at our accommodation for the next 3 nights.

Accommodation: Glen Helen Homestead Lodge



Day 4: Larapinta Trail – Serpentine Gorge to Serpentine Chalet Dam and The Ochre Pits

#### <u>14KM</u>

Journey to one of the most popular walks on the Larapinta Trail. From Serpentine Gorge carpark we make our way up to the top of the ridge. Discover some Mountain Hakea along the way and enjoy the breathtaking views once we get to the top. Discover the most iconic picture of the Larapinta Trail at Counts Point from where we head back down towards Serpentine Chalet Dam. At the end of the walk we will head to the famous Ochre Pits to have a look around one of the most significant places to the local Arrente Aboriginal people.

Accommodation: Glen Helen Homestead Lodge



Day 5: Larapinta Trail – Mt. Sonder

#### <u>16KM</u>

Ready for an adventure and a highlight of the Larapinta Trail, we make our way to Redbank, from where we will start our walk today. From the valley floor we slowly make our way up some steep sections to get to the Saddle. As we walk along the Saddle take in the vastness of the area before ascending to the top of Mt. Sonder. Enjoy your well deserved lunch as we take in the spectacular 360° views.

#### Accommodation: Glen Helen Homestead Lodge



# Day 6: Larapinta Trail – Ormiston Gorge Pound Walk and drive to Kings Canyon

#### <u>9KM</u>

Today we enjoy our last walk around the West Mac Donnell Ranges before making our way along the Mereenie Loop to Kings Canyon. The Ormiston Gorge Pound is a stunning walk that shows off all the beauty Central Australia can provide. After our walk in Ormiston Gorge we make our way along the unsealed Mereenine Loop to Kings Canyon. Here we will enjoy a dinner at the Restaurant after settling in at our accommodation.

#### Accommodation: Kings Canyon Resort campground and cabins

#### Meals: B, L, D



# Day 7: Kings Canyon Rim Walk and Aboriginal experience

#### <u>6KM</u>

Enjoy awakening to the sounds of the Australian Bush before we head out to Kings Canyon for the Rim Walk. After a steep climb up to the top the walk takes us along the canyon and through a small remnant of a tropical oasis. In the afternoon we will immerse ourselves in an Aboriginal Cultural Tour. Experience spear and boomerang displays, learn about bush tucker and bush medicine, learn local languages and much more. You could even choose to top it all off with a flight over Kings Canyon.

#### Accommodation: Kings Canyon Resort campground and cabins



Day 8: Kings Canyon to Uluru and Kata Tjuta

#### <u>7.4KM</u>

Moving on to probably the highlight of any Central Australia trip we make our way to Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park today. In the afternoon we commence the Valley of the Winds walk. Walking through the many domes and coming up close to this conglomerate rock we discover how different Kata Tjuta and Uluru are. After our walk we head back to Yulara Resort to check-in and set up at our accommodation.Accommodation: Ayers Rock Resort Campground **and cabinsMeals: B, L, D** 



Day 9: Kata Tjuta and Valley of the Winds walk

#### <u>10KM</u>

After a leisurely breakfast this morning we head to Uluru to do the Base Walk. As we admire Uluru from below we will learn more about the local Anangu people and some of the amazing stories connected to Uluru as well as discover how diverse the base of Uluru can be.

With a little free time in the afternoon you may choose to join a helicopter ride, come up close to some camels, discover Yulara or just relax.

Later we will enjoy some nibbles while watching the sunset over Uluru as we reflect on a great trip. To top it all off we will include a visit to the Field of Light (included until December 2020) after dinner.

## \*Please note itinerary may vary slightly depending on sunrise and sunset times



## Day 10: Yulara to Alice Springs

To complete your experience of Central Australia we head to Uluru for sunrise. Before our journey back to Alice Springs we return to camp to enjoy one last leisurely breakfast and pack up. We break up the long drive (5.5hrs) with a few interesting stops along the way. The drop off at your chosen hotel in Alice Springs will be around 4pm.

#### Meals: B, L

Details about accommodation, what to bring, transportation, food, etc.

## Accommodation

We will be staying at a variety of different accommodations on our Central Australia walking tour which include the following

- The Mercure, 2 nights
- Glen Helen Homestead Lodge, 3 nights
- Kings Canyon Resort, 2 nights
- Ayers Rock Resort Cabins, 2 nights

The motel style accommodation is allocated on a double or twin share basis. If you are a solo traveller we will room you with another solo traveller of the same gender. Limited single supplements are available at an additional charge. Please ask for details and availability if interested.

On our first two nights we will be staying at the Mercure in Alice Springs. The rooms are standard 4 star hotel rooms and we will eat out at a local restaurant for meals.

We then move to Glen Helen for 3 nights to get closer to our walks on the Larapinta Trail. At Glen Helen we will be staying in the motel rooms with ensuite bathrooms. The camp kitchen will be set up in the camping area, which will be a very short walk from the motel rooms.

At Kings Canyon we will be staying at Kings Canyon Resort for 2 nights. Here we will be staying in very basic motel style rooms with shared toilet blocks. The group camp area is very close to the motel rooms where we will set up the camp kitchen.

In Yulara we will be staying at Ayers Rock Resort Campground. The accommodation we will be staying in is basic cabins with shared toilet blocks and the camp kitchen a short walk away.

# What to bring

Due to health and safety requirements, please limit your luggage to one medium sized, soft sided bag per person. Length + width + height should not exceed 140 cm. The maximum weight of the bag shouldn't exceed 15 kg. If you're travelling as a couple, please pack two smaller bags rather than one large one. Your day pack is in addition to your main luggage bag.

#### Suggested items to pack for your Central Australia walking tour:

- Day-pack one with a waist strap is best to help take some weight off your shoulders
- Shorts or trousers and shirts for walking lightweight and quick-dry material are best
- Casual clothing for evenings and rest days
- Wind and waterproof jacket
- Socks whichever thickness you're comfortable in (thick explorer socks can get quite hot)
- Comfortable, sturdy walking shoes or boots (ankle support is recommended as manysurfaces are rocky and uneven)
- Sun protection hat, sunglasses, sunscreen (and consider your clothing) For campers: need a towel, sleeping bag and pillow
- Toiletries, hand sanitiser and personal medication
- Reliable headlamp with spare batteries (can be quite dark going in between the cabinsand useful when sharing a room)
- Any preferred first aid supplies such as blister treatment (Your guides will also carry afirst-aid kit)
- Water bottle/s 3 litre capacity at least
- Insect Repellent

\*\* At this time of year (June/July) the days are typically quite clear and mild (average max 25°C) and the nights can be quite cold (average min 0°C)

# Food

Three meals each day plus morning tea and snacks are included in the price of your tour (unless otherwise specified – see tour itinerary for details).

If you have any special dietary requirements please let us know when you book, we are happy to adapt our tasty, nutritious meals to suit a variety of dietary needs.

# Transport

Transport is by an air-conditioned custom built four wheel drive (4WD) tour coach, designed for comfort in outback conditions. Vehicles are modern, comfortable and regularly serviced to ensure their safety and reliability. They are also fitted with long-range high frequency radios and recovery gear in case of emergency.

In the case of breakdown or other unforeseen circumstances affecting the vehicle or guide, the operator reserves the right to substitute vehicles and guides other than those specified, to ensure the operation of a tour.

*Seat Allocation:* Seats on tour vehicle are not pre allocated. To ensure all participants get to enjoy window seats we encourage a daily seat rotation system.

# This walk includes

#### All meals, including morning tea and snacks

We pride ourselves on providing you with fresh, wholesome food. Enjoy healthy breakfasts, delicious morning teas, fresh picnic and packed lunches, fruit and hearty two-course dinners each day.



#### **Emergency support**

Wilderness first aid trained guides carry radios, satellite phones and a full first aid kit so you can walk without worry.

### Excellent itinerary and planning

Drawn from 14 years experience.

### Home made morning tea each day

Enjoy a slice of home-baked cake and a hot cuppa each morning on the track – we'll even carry the thermos for you!

### Meals prepared in our camp kitchen

Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks are provided.

### National Park entrance fees



### Transport built for outback conditions

Transport is by an air-conditioned custom built 4WD tour coach, designed for comfort in outback conditions. Regularly serviced to ensure safety and reliability. Fitted with communication and recovery gear in case of emergency.



Two fun and professional guides

We'll feed you, tell you stories, help you achieve the walks safely and make sure everything goes to plan so that you don't have to worry about a thing