

ACTIVE AUSTRALIA

Trip itinerary: *Dingo*

**Hiking around Ayers Rock, the Olgas & Kings Canyon • True Blue Aussie BBQ
Sunrise & Sunset over Ayers Rock • Sumptuous Northern Territory Feast
Optional: Scenic Flight, Camel Ride or Aboriginal Cultural Experience**

4 days: Yulara to Yulara

Fare: US\$1299 + applicable taxes and fees

If you've always dreamed of visiting Ayers Rock, which punctuates the stark interior of the vast Australian desert, this is the trip! It's a big journey to make it this far inland – but well worth the effort! We have four days in Australia's Red Centre. We'll spend most of our time in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and the spectacular King's Canyon – Australia's version of the Grand Canyon. We'll hike around the base of Ayers Rock and also hike through the Olgas – a lesser known but equally impressive collection of natural monoliths. We'll meet some of the local aborigines, and learn about their way of life. If you like you can also take a stunning scenic flight over Ayers Rocks, or even have a go at riding a camel! While we're here we'll be staying in comfortable lodgings with air-conditioning. We've designed the Dingo so that it works well either on its own or as an adjunct to one of our longer trips.

Monday Arrive Yulara & hike around Ayers Rock

If you've always dreamed of visiting Ayers Rock, then here is your chance! Most international flights arrive into either Brisbane or Sydney on the East Coast of Australia. Then the majority of flights from the coast arrive at Yulara by 2pm. Yulara is the closest town to Ayers Rock, or Uluru as it is known to Anangu, the local native people.

After some lunch, you'll visit the world's largest monolith, Uluru, which, at 2.5 miles long and rising over 1000 feet above the surrounding sand scrubland, literally has to be seen to be believed! It is thought that only a small portion of it is actually visible, with another 3.5 miles beneath the surface. Uluru is of deep cultural significance to the local Anangu people, and there are many opportunities whilst in the area to delve into the aboriginal culture. We'll hike around the base of the famous monolith, exploring its mysterious formations and Aboriginal art sites up close. You'll also have the option to hike to the top of Uluru, although the local Anangu people would prefer that you view their most sacred site only from afar. As the sun sets over the desert, we'll settle down to watch the magnificent color changes that occur across the face of the rock at this time of day, as we enjoy a true blue Aussie BBQ. Depending on the atmospheric conditions, the rock can dramatically change color, anything from blue to glowing red!

ACCOMMODATION: *Outback Pioneer Hotel and Lodge, Yulara*

(L,D)

Tuesday Uluru Options & the Olgas

Although Yulara is a small remote place there's plenty to do in the area. So this morning you'll be free to do whatever you choose – you might like to take a scenic flight or helicopter ride over the surrounding desert area, or perhaps even try your hand at a camel ride! If you'd prefer to experience more of the Aboriginal culture we can also arrange that too.

This afternoon we'll head into the outback to see more of Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. We'll be visiting the Olgas, or Kata Tjuta, as they are known by the local Anangu people. This collection of smaller, more rounded monoliths is less well known, but is equally impressive. Some people find them more captivating than Uluru itself. Kata Tjuta means "many heads" and they also have deep spiritual significance. We can explore the Kata Tjuta and hike Valley of the Winds, the main gorge which separates the two largest monoliths, before heading back to our accommodation to relax amongst the spectacular desert stars, and look for the Southern Cross and other southern constellations.

ACCOMMODATION: *Outback Pioneer Hotel and Lodge, Yulara*

(B,L,D)

- All guiding services. We operate with small groups, and we don't hesitate to offer a second departure when our trips start getting full.
- Comfortable accommodations for the entire period you are with us (see "Accommodations" above). We can organize extra accommodation for you, if you want to arrive earlier or leave later.
- All your meals (as indicated), except where we've found people prefer to check out the wide range of local restaurants. (B,L,D) means breakfast, lunch & dinner included. Alcohol is not generally included, although we do spring for a few drinks here and there!
- All activities as described in the itinerary, except optional extra activities, such as the desert camel riding. We have estimated the rates for optional extra activities run by local operators in US dollars, but these rates may vary according to the USD/AUD exchange rate of the day. There are many optional activities available at extra cost along the way – just ask your guide. None of these activities are compulsory, and nor will your trip seem less awesome if you do the more budget options. Although some people enjoy sampling the optional extras, others prefer to focus more on the hiking which is of course the reason you've chosen the *Dingo* in the first place!
- All specialized equipment required for all activities – please refer to our gear list for further details.

We'll see you soon!