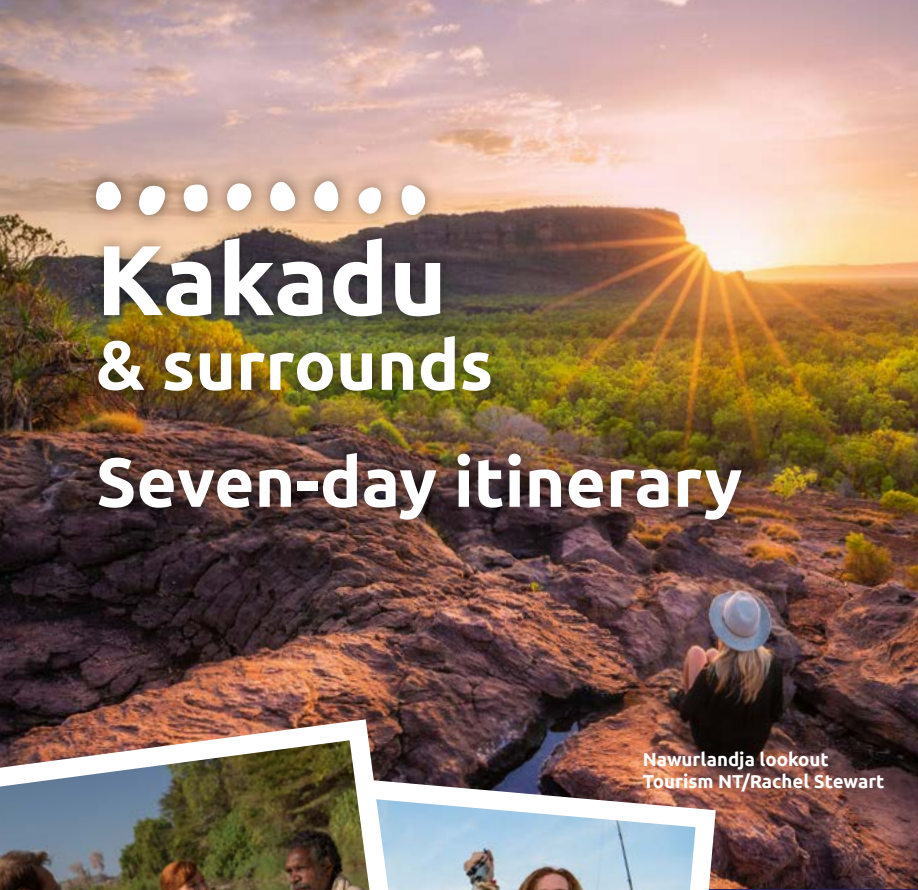


# Kakadu & surrounds

## Seven-day itinerary



Nawurlandja lookout  
Tourism NT/Rachel Stewart



Cultural Tour, East Alligator River  
Tourism NT/James Fisher



Fishing, Yellow Water Billabong  
Tourism NT/Shana McNaught



Make the most of a week in Kakadu National Park by taking your time to really uncover the natural wonder in this part of the Northern Territory.

Learn the ancient stories and traditions of one of oldest living cultures on earth. Get up close and personal with the largest reptile on the planet and learn about native wildlife on a river cruise. Take a day trip to relax under waterfalls and swim in crystal clear plunge pools. Climb to great heights for unsurpassed views of the Park's incredible floodplains and escarpment country, then finish off your days taking in Kakadu's iconic sunsets.



### Top 10

1. Visit the **Bowali Visitor Centre** to plan your activities while you're in the Park
2. Don't miss an unforgettable sunset from the top of **Ubirr** overlooking the Nadab floodplain
3. Hop on a wildlife **cruise** on Yellow Water Billabong or the East Alligator River with a local guide
4. Join a one-day cultural **tour** and discover ancient Aboriginal culture first hand with a local guide
5. Walk the circuit at **Nourlangie** and set your sights on one of Australia's most outstanding Aboriginal rock art sites
6. View the majestic Jim Jim Falls and Twin Falls on a **scenic flight** with views of towering escarpments and sparkling waters
7. Cool off and visit **Marrawuddi Gallery** in Jabiru
8. Learn more about Aboriginal culture at the **Warradjan Cultural Centre**
9. Try your luck catching the famous Barramundi on a **Yellow Water Billabong Fishing Tour**
10. Head to **Maguk** waterfall for the perfect place for a picnic and swim in monsoon forest surroundings

#### DAY 1

Rise early this morning for the 2-hour drive departing Darwin along the Stuart Highway then turn onto the Arnhem Highway to access the northern entry of **Kakadu National Park**. A 4WD vehicle is highly recommended for this trip as some locations are only accessible via a 4WD track.

As you'll be visiting Aboriginal-owned land and a national park, a park pass is required. Your pass includes entry to the Park, ranger-guided walks and talks, and interpretive materials. You can buy your pass online or at several convenient locations in the Top End. For details visit **Parks Australia**.

The **Bowali Visitor Centre** is recommended for your first stop. Here you pick up refreshments at the cafe before wandering

through the interpretive displays and the gallery. Remember to check in with the staff at the visitor centre regarding any possible road closures or conditions you should be aware of for your Kakadu trip.

Experience Kakadu from the water and book a cultural **cruise** on the East Alligator River. Keep an eye out for crocodiles while your local guide talks about culture, shares creation stories, bush foods and survival skills. Disembark and walk onto Arnhem Land for a display of traditional hunting and gathering techniques.

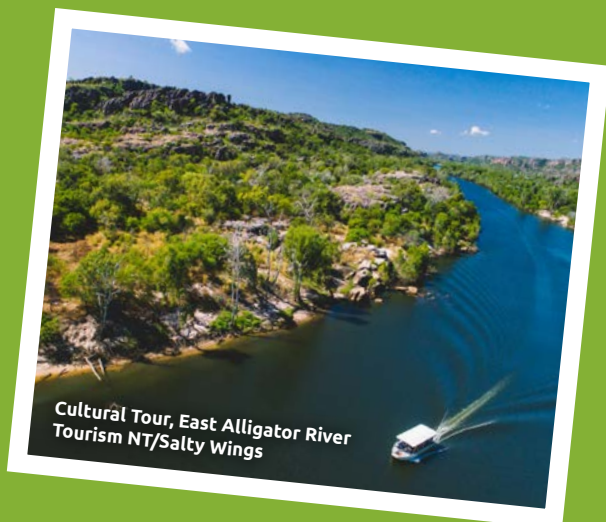
Home tonight is in Jabiru, Kakadu's main township, which has a variety of **accommodation options** including camping and hotels.



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Cultural Tour, East Alligator River  
Tourism NT/Salty Wings

Rock art, Injalak Hill, Arnhem Land  
Tourism NT/James Fisher



## DAY 2

Today, immerse yourself in the culture of the region and join a one-day Arnhem Land Aboriginal cultural **tour**. Led by a local Aboriginal guide, you'll get to explore ancient rock art on Injalak Hill and have the opportunity to visit the **Injalak Art Centre**.

The centre is a source for high-calibre Aboriginal art, all made locally. You may also be able to see the artists at work, and watch local women weaving pandanus baskets. All permits to enter Arnhem Land are included on an approved tour.

You also have the option to visit the Injalak Art Centre on a self-drive, however please be mindful that you will need to apply for a permit prior to your visit through the **Northern Land Council**. Alternatively you can apply for permits at the NLC office in Jabiru. Make sure you have some time up your sleeve, as the permit can take a couple of days to be approved.

If you are travelling during the dry season, make the most of the **seasonal ranger program** and get involved with over 40 free activities per week to choose from, such as cultural demonstrations, guided walks, night time slideshows and rock art presentations.

The late afternoon guided walk at **Ubirr**, one of Kakadu's most visited sites is a must-do. The local guide will explain the meanings of the ancient Aboriginal rock art and you'll finish the tour on top of Ubirr in time for a stunning sunset and memorable views across the floodplains.

On the way home, grab a bite to eat from the Border Store, which is well known for its delicious food and friendly service.



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Nadab Lookout, Ubirr  
Tourism NT/Nicholas Kavo

### DAY 3

Head south from Jabiru to visit **Nourlangie** rock art site, which was used by the local Aboriginal people as a shelter from storms for thousands of years. The art on the walls serve as an insight into their rich spiritual tradition. In the dry season (May to October), free ranger guided walks are available daily.

Back off the Kakadu Highway is **Mirray Lookout**. If you're feeling active, challenge yourself to the 3.6 km return trail to the top of Mount Cahill which takes approximately 1.5 hours to complete. You won't be disappointed with the stunning panoramic views of the escarpment and floodplains of central Kakadu.

For an incredible sunset spot, make sure to head to Nawurlandja lookout and take the short, steep hike for impressive views across Anbangbang Billabong.

Head approximately 20 km along the Kakadu Highway and turn off to **Cooinda Lodge**, where there's a variety of accommodation options to choose from, restaurant and pool. The lodge also offers entertainment and activities for guests, from bush tucker talks to live music.

### DAY 4

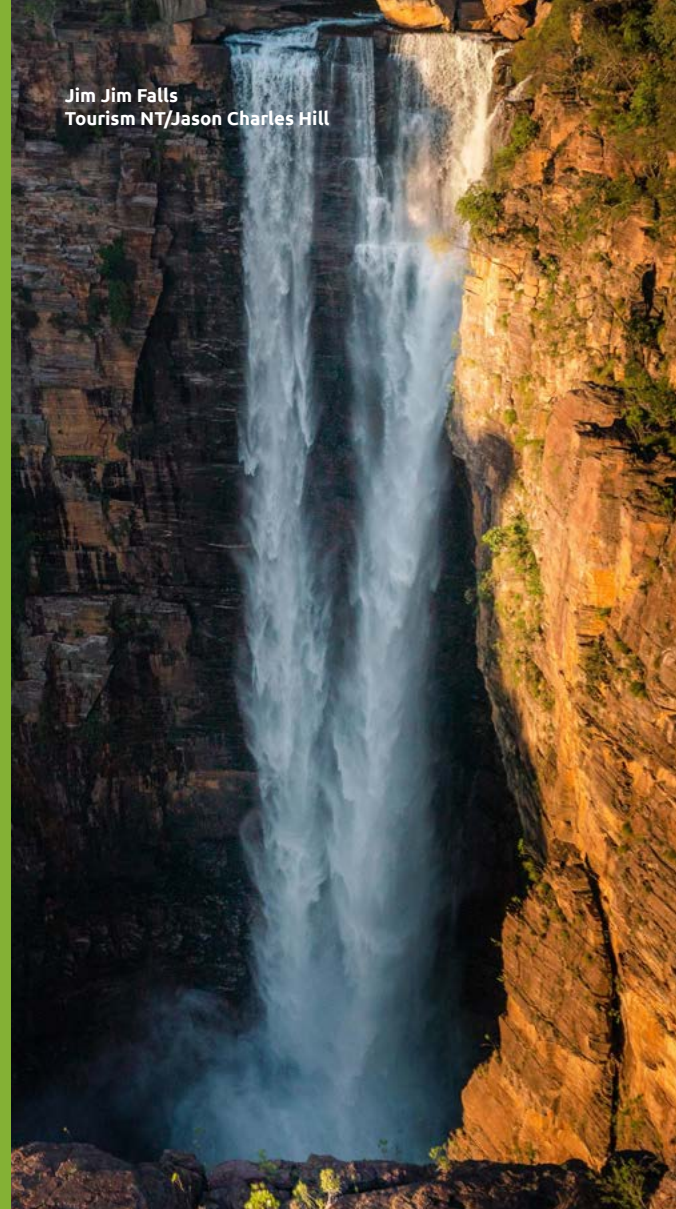
Today you'll be embarking on a four-wheel drive adventure to the pristine locations of **Jim Jim Falls** and Twin Falls. Travel approximately 2 hours down the 4WD track to your first stop at Jim Jim Falls, which is accessible during the dry season.

You'll be rewarded after the energetic journey with incredible views of the red ochre Aescarpment contrasting the crystal clear waters of the falls. Stretch your legs and set off on the 2 km return walk through a monsoon forest that will take you to a deep plunge pool surrounded by ancient, 150-metre high cliffs. During the wet season (November to April), the falls are in full force and are a spectacular sight from the sky.

You'll find the picnic area located along the Jim Jim Falls access road on the way to Twin Falls. Stop here for a bite to eat before making your way to Twin Falls, just 10 km further up the road. Be warned, a 4WD with a snorkel is highly recommended for this part of the journey as there is a creek crossing to drive through which is usually around 0.6 – 0.7 m in depth.

You can access **Twin Falls** via the Twin Falls Gorge Boat Shuttle Service that will ferry you to the base of the falls, during which you can learn about the area from a talk given by the guide on the boat. The shuttle service returns regularly until late in the afternoon, and tickets can be purchased from the campground. Immerse yourself in the tranquil surroundings and take a scenic stroll along the boardwalk to the cascading falls, or sit back and relax on the white sandy shore.

Drive back to the Kakadu Highway this afternoon and make your way back to your accommodation at Cooinda Lodge.



Jim Jim Falls  
Tourism NT/Jason Charles Hill



Scenic flight, Twin Falls  
Tourism NT/Sam Earp



Maguk plunge pool  
Tourism NT/Adriana Alvarado



Yellow Water Sunset Cruise  
Tourism NT/Shanaa McNaught

## DAY 5

Start the day off with a visit to the **Warradjan Cultural Centre**. Here, you can learn about the culture and beliefs of the local Aboriginal people and see traditional weaving and cooking techniques.

Get acquainted with Kakadu's most famous wetland on a **Yellow Water Billabong Sunset Cruise**. It's the best way to see the wetland wildlife in their pristine natural environment; the billabong is home to crocodiles and a vast range of resident birdlife. Watch the Brolgas dance as the sun sets while your experienced guide gives a fascinating insight into how the Bininj people used the flora and fauna to support their way of life.

If you want to get amongst the action, perhaps a **Yellow Water Fishing Tour** is more up your alley? Led by experienced fishing guides, you'll have the opportunity to catch a famous barramundi on Kakadu's most famous billabong. If you reel in one that's a keeper, you can have one of the chefs cook it up exactly to your liking. It's a fishing adventure you'll remember forever.

Head back to your accommodation at Coinda Lodge and wind down after a full day spent exploring.

## DAY 6

Get on the road again with a packed lunch and plenty of snacks – your destination this time is further along the Kakadu Highway.

This morning you'll be rewarded with a trip to **Maguk**. Take the 2km return walk over river bed to the base of Maguk waterfall that is well worth your effort. You'll be greeted with crystal clear pools that are perfect to relax by in the mid-morning sun.

Once you're ready to hit the road again, head further south into the national park with a visit to **Motor Car Falls** – a glorious location with a cascading waterfall feeding into the plunge pool below.

Motor Car Falls is part of the Yurmikmik walks area. Make sure to be prepared with plenty of water for the 7.5 km return hike.

If you have plenty of time leftover this afternoon, you may consider one of the other shorter walks in the area.

Remember to check road conditions daily before travelling to any location within the national park. Sites can be closed subject to weather during the wet season.

## DAY 7

Today is your final day in Kakadu National Park. Make the most of the morning to relax at your accommodation poolside before driving back to Darwin via the Kakadu Highway.

Stop over at the Bark Hut Inn or have lunch at the **Purple Mango Cafe** along the way. There are several places to relax with a cool drink and a chat with the locals. Continue on your way back to Darwin reliving memories of your Kakadu adventures.

# Uluru & surrounds

## Seven-day itinerary



Longitude 131



### DAY 1

Start your day at the **Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre** to find out more about the Park and local Aboriginal culture. The Anangu people are Uluru's traditional custodians and have lived in the area for more than 22,000 years. At the Cultural Centre you can purchase Anangu art, watch craft demonstrations, or join a bush tucker session and guided walk.

See Uluru from all angles on **The Mala Walk**. The walk is wheelchair-friendly and takes you to a quiet waterhole at the base of a dramatic rock face. Only 90 minutes (return) walk. Take your time looking at the caves filled with ancient Aboriginal rock art.

If you're feeling particularly adventurous, take to the skies on an adrenaline-pumping **skydive** to see incredible views of Australia's most famous natural landmark. Soak up the panoramic views and take plenty of photos on a helicopter flight or jump on the back of a **Harley Davidson motorcycle for an adventure ride** with spectacular views.

At Ayers Rock Resort you can choose self-contained apartments, hotels, a five-star luxury wilderness camp, backpacker rooms or a campground with sites and cabins. Make sure to visit the **Field of Light** – an incredible light installation designed by internationally renowned artist, Bruce Munro. Walk along a trail surrounded by more than 50,000 solar powered glowing stems and admire the scene under the desert night sky.

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See Australia's most iconic landmarks from every angle – by foot, camel, bicycle, on the back of a Harley or from the air.

This seven-day itinerary takes you on a journey from Uluru to nearby Kata Tjuta and on a trip to Watarrka National Park to see the majestic Kings Canyon, Mt Conner and the eye-catching natural formation of Lake Amadeus. Learn about Aboriginal culture in the Red Centre and venture further to see what it's like working on an Outback camel station at Kings Creek Station.



### TOP 10

1. Visit the **Uluru Cultural Centre** to learn about the history of the Park and local Aboriginal culture
2. Get the adrenaline pumping with epic views of the Outback from above on a **skydive** or **scenic flight**
3. **Ride like a cameleer** through the desert dunes at sunrise or sunset
4. Walk or **cycle** the 10.6 km circuit around Uluru to appreciate its raw beauty and visit Aboriginal rock art sites
5. Dine under the stars and sample native flavours at the **Sounds of Silence** dinner
6. Stroll through the **Field of Light** exhibition created by internationally-acclaimed artist Bruce Munro
7. Explore **Kata Tjuta** by taking the short walk to Walpa Gorge or hike the Valley of the Winds
8. View the majestic Kings Canyon and hike the Rim Walk in **Watarrka National Park**
9. Ride a quad bike through the Outback at **Kings Creek Station**
10. Explore the salt lakes near Mount Conner on a guided tour from **Curtin Springs**

## Uluru Camel Tours



Uluru Motorcycle Tours

### DAY 2

Try a different way to see the desert scenery at sunrise with multi-award winning **Uluru Camel Tours**. Climb atop and sit back as you take a leisurely pace while admiring the incredible views of the icons.

Join a walking tour led by an Aboriginal guide or hire a bike near the Cultural Centre and circumnavigate Uluru on the 10.6 kilometre base walk, which is dotted with interpretive displays. It's a great way to see the many springs, waterholes, rock art caves and ancient paintings around Uluru's base.

In the afternoon, jump on the back of a Harley Davidson motorcycle and enjoy the spectacular views. Make dinner memorable – the **Sounds of Silence** is a unique dining experience that starts with canapés and a 360-degree view of the sunset over Uluru and Kata Tjuta. Enjoy your next course, a gourmet barbecue of native game, with bush salads and fine Australian wines, which is followed by a guided tour of the night sky; lead by the resident 'star talker'.

### DAY 3

Nearby is Kata Tjuta, which means 'many heads' and is a series of enormous rock domes that date more than 500 million years. Start your morning early with a drive to the Kata Tjuta dune viewing area. A short walk from the carpark offers magnificent panoramic views of the domes and a relaxing place to sit and absorb the ever-changing colours of the landscape.

Continue on the road to Kata Tjuta and find out just how ancient and imposing the domes are by tackling one of the two popular walking tracks. The **Walpa Gorge Walk** is an easy walk which takes an hour return and follows a stream to a grove of flourishing spear wood. The famed **Valley of the Winds** walk is a moderately difficult 7.4 kilometre hike which weaves through the immersive domes and treats you to spectacular views over the desert plains from its two lookout points.

Finish off the evening at the sunset viewing area and observe the sun go down over the spectacular Central Australian landscape.



Kata Tjuta at sunrise

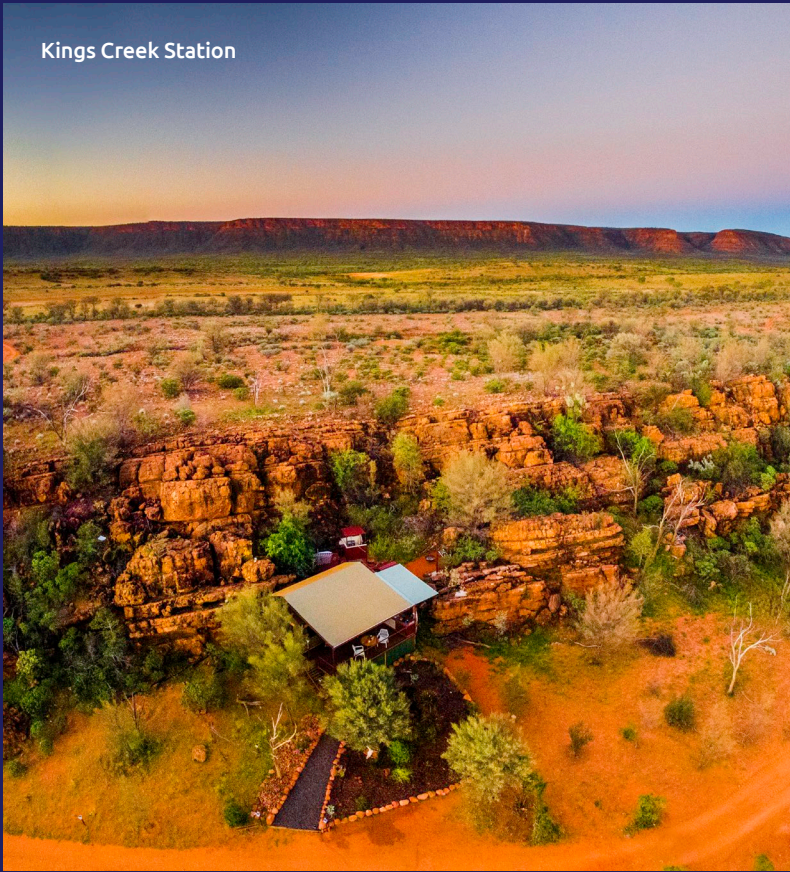
### DAY 4

No drive into the Red Centre is complete without a trip to **Watarrka National Park** and the magical sandstone formation of Kings Canyon – three hours from Uluru. Break up your journey with a stopover at Curtin Springs to indulge in the authentic home-style meals on offer at the historic Bough Shed. The restaurant uses the stations very own meat for a multitude of the delicious dishes. Walk the gardens and learn about the history of area. Be sure to take home some handmade Curtin Springs Paper created from the native grasses as a distinctively beautiful souvenir of Central Australia.

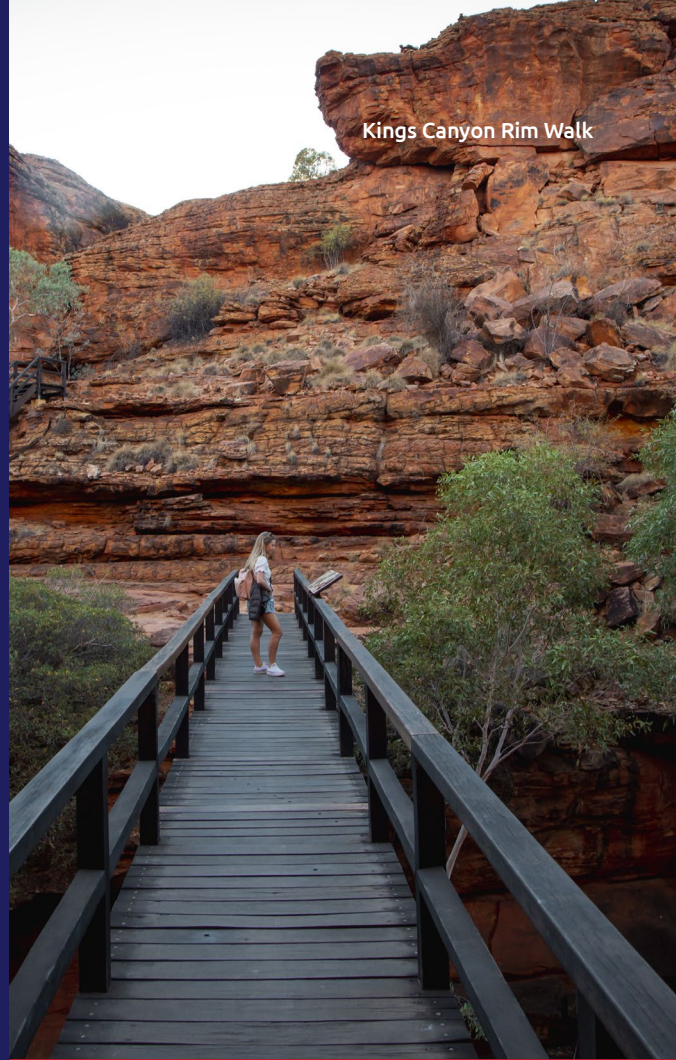
Following the Lasseter and Luritja highways, in just over two hours you will arrive at the ancient sandstone walls of Kings Canyon that tower 100 metres and lead into a lush waterhole. Explore the valley floor and climb up to the rocky domes on the canyon rim. The gentle, shady Kings Creek Walk trail extends 2.6 kilometres along the valley floor to a viewing platform. Guided ranger walks and talks are run May–September. Stay to see the changing colours of the canyon at sunset.

At Kings Canyon Resort, just seven kilometres from Watarrka National Park, choose accommodation ranging from motel-style rooms to campsites. There's a service station and convenience store at the resort as well as bars and restaurants – splurge on an unforgettable **Under a Desert Moon** dinner of six-course alfresco indulgence (available April–October).

Kings Creek Station



Kings Canyon Rim Walk



DAY 5

Get up early to see the sunrise and walk around the canyon rim to take in magnificent views of the weathered, buttressed domes of The Lost City and the sheltered lush valley below in the Garden of Eden.

Bid Kings Canyon farewell and drive the 35 kilometres to **Kings Creek Station** – a working cattle and camel station at the foot of the George Gill Range. Explore this epic slice of the Australian outback on a short or overnight quad bike tour. Look for kangaroos, wild camels, wedge-tailed eagles and colourful parrots. Book a camp site or stay in a safari cabin set among natural bush, try a famous Kings Creek camel burger, or stroll to the George Gill lookout for magnificent views of the range.



DAY 6

Travelling back along the Lasseter and Luritja highways today towards Uluru, make another stop over at **Curtin Springs**. This time you will be spending the night. There is lots to see and do in this area including viewing the famous salt lakes and getting up close to Mount Conner, both which can be accessed on a tour with Curtin Springs. Mount Conner is not quite as famous as Uluru, but it is no less remarkable. It is a flat-topped and horseshoe-shaped mountain that stands 300 metres above the surrounding desert. Here you can see Lake Amadeus – the largest salt lake in the Northern Territory and makes for fantastic photos.

As the daylight hours wane, enjoy a glass of wine and watch the changing colours of the sunset over Mount Conner followed by a three-course outback dinner prepared by the cook at Curtin Springs. There are many accommodation options to choose from tonight at the Curtin Springs Wayside Inn including ensuite, budget and family rooms as well as powered and unpowered campsites.



DAY 7

Enjoy breakfast and a hot coffee this morning at the Curtin Springs Bough Shed before making the journey back to Uluru. Take your time and stop along the way for some last minute photos of the majestic icon of the Outback as it comes into view.

Before bidding farewell, pay a quick visit to the township of Yulara which is the perfect spot for some last minute souvenir shopping and also has some great cafes to choose from for lunch. Recap on an incredible week of adventures and once in a lifetime experiences of getting to know the area a little more intimately.

It is time to make your way to the airport to catch your flight home.

Kings Canyon Resort



Watarrka National Park

