



SPARK TRAVEL



| 8 Day

TOP END DISCOVERY

| Wednesday 4 September 2024

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Suite 1, Ground Floor
29 King William Street
Adelaide, SA 5000

Fully Escorted From Adelaide
Return Home Transfers
Gold Service Aboard The Ghan Adelaide To Darwin
Qantas Flight Darwin To Adelaide
2 Day Tour To Kakadu

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Hughes Home Pick Up Service (zoned area only).
- Escorted from Adelaide by an experienced Spark Travel Tour Manager.
- Travel Adelaide to Darwin in Gold Service aboard *The Legendary Ghan* - one of the world's great rail journeys - *including - complimentary soft drinks, alcoholic beverages (including base spirits), tea/coffee in the Outback Explorer Lounge and Queen Adelaide Restaurant, dining in the Queen Adelaide Restaurant and complimentary Off Train Excursions in Alice Springs and Katherine.*
- Fly Qantas Economy Class Darwin to Adelaide.
- Quality coach travel.
- Enjoy the wonderful contrast of the rich ochre hues of Central Australia and the lush green tropical landscape of the Top End.
- 4 nights Darwin, 1 night Kakadu.
- 2 day tour to Kakadu and a chance to spot crocodiles on the magnificent early morning Yellow Waters 'Sunrise' Cruise.
- Bombing of Darwin tour including the fascinating Darwin Military Museum and see the Cyclone Tracy exhibit at the Darwin Museum, visit the Darwin Aviation Museum.
- Beautiful Darwin Harbour cruise and buffet dinner.
- Delightful buffet dinner overlooking Darwin Harbour at the Vibe Darwin Waterfront.
- Full day tour to the Litchfield National Park and the Territory Wildlife Park.



THE GHAN:

Accommodation on board the train is in comfortable **Gold Service** in either twin share cabins with upper and lower berth or lower berth single cabins, which during the day convert into conventional seating. Twin cabins have their own private shower, toilet and washbasin, whilst the singles have washbasin facilities with toilets and showers being available at the end of each carriage.

Dress: Smart casual (no shorts in the restaurant, fine for excursions off the train).

NEW:

- Complimentary soft drinks, beer, wines, base spirits and tea/coffee in the Outback Explorer Lounge and Queen Adelaide Restaurant.
- Stylish dining in the famed Queen Adelaide Restaurant.
- Complimentary Off Train Excursions in Alice Springs and Katherine.

NOTES:

****Health and Fitness:** To assist us when booking, please advise your Spark Travel consultant if you have any special needs such as mobility, dietary etc. A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. You will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided and you must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. If you are unable to manage on your own, it will be necessary to be accompanied by another person who is fit and able to assist you in day to day tasks and capable of providing the assistance required. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information in writing.

****Tour extensions subject to availability and extension booking criteria.**

****It should be noted that to be fair to all passengers, specific coach seats cannot be reserved.**

****Please note that on tours where flights are involved, the seating within the confines of the group is computer allocated alphabetically by the airlines concerned and beyond the control of Spark Travel.**

HUGHES TRANSFERS TO AND FROM YOUR HOME:

Hughes transfers apply in the zoned area. These transfers may be available at additional cost to passengers who live outside the zoned area - please ask your Spark Travel consultant.

'HUGHES HOME PICK UP SERVICE' will call you **two (2) days** before the commencement of the tour to confirm the time they will be arriving at your home. **If you have missed the call, please contact Spark Travel (08) 8876 5121 or Hughes (08) 8440 0766 a day prior to departure** for your pickup time. **If you reside at a retirement village, please ensure Hughes have clear instructions from you as to means of entry and directions to find your home. Also, if you are out of zone there will be an additional payment due and this should be made at the time of booking.** For safety reasons, suitcases should weigh no more than 20kgs. The Hughes home pick up service only applies to scheduled tour departure and return tour dates. Those passengers wishing to extend their tours will be responsible for their own transfers.

ITINERARY:

DAY 01 – WEDNESDAY, 04 SEPTEMBER - ADELAIDE/DARWIN – THE LEGENDARY GHAN

On arrival at **Adelaide Parklands Terminal**, (formerly Keswick Station), please meet with your **Spark Travel Tour Manager** who will assist with check in and allocate **Gold Service berths**. Before you join the train enjoy **pre-departure tea/coffee and entertainment** in the Terminal. Depart **Adelaide** at **12.10pm** on board the **Legendary Ghan** for the trip of a lifetime on one of the world's great rail journeys. Relax in the lounge car and watch the magnificent hues of a truly spectacular outback sunset!

On train dress: Smart casual (no shorts in the restaurant, fine for excursions off the train).

OVERNIGHT: ON BOARD THE GHAN. (L,D)

DAY 02 – THURSDAY, 05 SEPTEMBER - ON BOARD THE LEGENDARY GHAN – VISIT ALICE SPRINGS – OFF TRAIN EXCURSION

Continue northwards through the vast **Central Australia** desert lands, with the rich ochre shadings of the desert sands, giant ghost gums and ancient dry river courses. The train makes a stopover in **Alice Springs** where a **complimentary Off Train Excursion** is included in the fare. A light lunch is served today before arriving in Alice Springs.

OVERNIGHT: ON BOARD THE GHAN. (B,L,D)

DAY 03 – FRIDAY, 06 SEPTEMBER - ARRIVE DARWIN – VISIT KATHERINE – OFF TRAIN EXCURSION

The Ghan continues north today with a stop this morning at **Katherine**. Enjoy a **complimentary Off Train Excursion** of your choice - you may wish to take the cruise on the Katherine River, home to Barramundi and fish-eating freshwater crocodiles. Ancient Aboriginal paintings can be seen on its towering cliff walls. Lunch will be served after depart Katherine.

Arrive **Darwin Rail Passenger Terminal** at **7.50pm** and transfer in our own Spark Travel coach to the **Hilton Garden Inn Darwin**, our home for the next three nights. After check in, enjoy a **light supper**.

OVERNIGHT: HILTON GARDEN INN DARWIN. (B,L,S)

DAY 04 – SATURDAY, 07 SEPTEMBER - IN DARWIN - DARWIN SIGHTS TOUR, BOMBING OF DARWIN TOUR, DARWIN MILITARY MUSEUM, DARWIN HARBOUR CRUISE AND DINNER

This morning after breakfast we join our coach for a **full day tour** of interesting and varied sights. Darwin, green and lush with palms and the perfume of frangipani, is the Capital of tropical Australia, and today is a bustling modern city, situated on one of Australia's prettiest harbours. During its history Darwin has been destroyed three times by cyclones and numerous times by wartime bombing.

We begin our sights tour with a special **Bombing of Darwin tour** with local war historian **Garry Gallagher**. Also included, with Garry as our guide, is the fascinating **Darwin Military Museum**. On our tour pass Fannie Bay Gaol, Government and Admiralty Houses and the magnificent Parliament House, known by locals as the 'wedding cake.' Then on to **Darwin Museum** to view the **Cyclone Tracy Exhibition**, also to say 'hello' to Sweetheart the man-eating crocodile on display. Late afternoon we board a **Darwin Harbour Cruises** vessel for a delightful **sunset cruise** and **buffet dinner**. Pass places of interest such as the small ships marine facility, Stokes Hill Wharf, City Skyline, Navy Base, Cullen Bay, Yacht Club and East Point.

OVERNIGHT: HILTON GARDEN INN DARWIN. (B,D)

DAY 05 – SUNDAY, 08 SEPTEMBER - IN DARWIN – TERRITORY WILDLIFE PARK, LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK, DINNER ON THE WATERFRONT

We begin our day at the **Territory Wildlife Park** at Berry Springs. Nestled in 400 hectares of natural bushland, the Park is the setting for a showcase of wildlife, featuring native Territory animals in their natural habitat. Next on to **Litchfield National Park** with its magnificent **cascading waterfalls** and fascinating giant **Magnetic termite mounds**, a unique natural wonder. Visit **Wangi Falls**, featuring a large permanent pool surrounded by lush monsoonal rainforest – make sure you take a stroll down to the boardwalk opposite the waterfalls or maybe enjoy a refreshing swim in the waterhole.

Tonight we enjoy a **delightful dinner** and a **complimentary glass of 'bubbly'** overlooking Darwin Harbour in the **Curve Restaurant** at the **Vibe Darwin Waterfront**.

OVERNIGHT: HILTON GARDEN INN DARWIN. (B,D)

DAY 06 – MONDAY, 09 SEPTEMBER - DARWIN/KAKADU - WINDOW ON THE WETLANDS, KAKADU

After breakfast at the hotel we depart Darwin on our **2 day excursion** to the beautiful Kakadu National Park, travelling via the Arnhem Highway. Visit the **Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve** (access permitting), a haven for wildlife, amongst Darwin's developing rural fringe, then on to the **Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre** perched high on Beatrice Hill, one of the highest points on the Adelaide River floodplain. View the interactive displays about the ecological processes that occur in the wetlands, seasonal changes and the problems of feral animals and weeds. From the top floor of the Centre, (lift access available) enjoy superb views across the floodplains. Visit the **Bowali Visitors Centre** near **Jabiru** where an impressive display gives visitors an appreciation of the World Heritage Park. Visit **Ubirr Rocks** to inspect the **Aboriginal cave paintings**. (*Note: some uneven ground*) A **picnic lunch** will be supplied today.
OVERNIGHT: COOINDA LODGE, KAKADU. (B,L,D)

DAY 07 – TUESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER - KAKADU/DARWIN - YELLOW WATERS 'SUNRISE' CRUISE, WARRADJAN ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE, NOURLANGI ROCK

This morning we join the spectacular **Yellow Waters 'Sunrise' cruise** on the **South Alligator River**. We will be able to view the abundant wildlife, huge saltwater crocodiles, beautiful Jabiru storks, mudskippers and rainbow birds. Visit the **Warradjan Aboriginal Cultural Centre** with its stories of the Aboriginal people of Kakadu, then on to **Nourlangi Rock**, an area of great archaeological significance where we can view an ancient Aboriginal shelter and several outstanding art sites. With 60,000 years of Aboriginal culture and some of the best examples of rock art, there is no doubt that Kakadu is one of Australia's most significant areas. After departing Kakadu we head off back to **Darwin**, arriving late afternoon. A **picnic lunch** will be provided today.
OVERNIGHT: HILTON GARDEN INN DARWIN. (B,L,D)

DAY 08 – WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER - FLY DARWIN/ADELAIDE - DARWIN AVIATION MUSEUM

After a leisurely breakfast we check out and head off to the fascinating **Darwin Aviation Museum**, with its collection of memorabilia and historic aircraft including the **B-52 Mitchell Bomber**, and learn about the famous woman aviator, **Amy Johnson**, who crash-landed in Darwin on 24 May 1930 after an epic 20 day 18,000 kms solo flight from England. Our coach will then take us to a suitable location for lunch (own cost), after which we transfer to **Darwin Airport** to connect with the return flight to Adelaide.

As we use electronic ticketless travel, please have **photo ID ready for inspection at check in, after which you will be handed your boarding pass for your flight.**

Depart **Darwin Airport** at 5.40pm on QF1953, arriving **Adelaide Airport** at 9.25pm. (B)

AFTER YOUR TOUR A CHAUFFEUR CAR WILL DRIVE YOU BACK HOME

TOUR COST:

Twin/double: \$6995.00 per person
Single supplement: \$ 988.00 per person

NOTE: Sole use of a twin on The Ghan on application

MEAL CODINGS: (B) – Breakfast (L) – Lunch (D) – Dinner (S) – Supper

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Hughes transfers from/to your home (zoned area only).
- Escorted from Adelaide by an experienced Spark Travel Tour Manager.
- **Gold Service** twin share or single sleepers on *The Legendary Ghan*, Adelaide to Darwin, including all dinners, breakfasts and lunches, soft drinks, alcoholic beverages (including base spirits) and tea/coffee in the Outback Explorer Lounge and Queen Adelaide Restaurant, Off Train Excursions in Alice Springs and Katherine.
- Fly Economy Class with Qantas Darwin to Adelaide.
- Luxury airconditioned touring coach with full size reclining seats.
- All motel/hotel accommodation with private facilities at the Hilton Garden Inn Darwin and Cooina Lodge, Kakadu.
- In Darwin and Kakadu - cooked breakfast each morning, 4 dinners, 1 supper, 2 picnic lunches.
- Entry fees to Bombing of Darwin tour and Darwin Military Museum, Darwin Aviation Museum, Darwin Harbour Cruise, Territory Wildlife Park, Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre, Yellow Waters 'Sunrise' cruise, park entry fees as per itinerary.
- Touring as specified in the itinerary.
- Goods and Services tax.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals, morning and afternoon teas, drinks other than indicated in the itinerary.
- Portage. A suitcase with wheels is recommended maximum weight 20kgs plus 1 hand baggage maximum weight 7kgs.
- Darwin Museum entry by gold coin donation towards upkeep.
- Items of a personal nature.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS FOR YOUR TOUR:

Hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, wind jacket (for early morning cruise), insect repellent, closed toe walking shoes, water bottle (it is essential to keep up fluid intake), small torch, swimsuit if you wish to utilise the hotel swimming pools.

COVID-19:

No responsibility is taken by Spark Travel or the Event Organisers in regard to Covid-19. It is highly recommended that visitors wear a mask on board flights and whilst in enclosed spaces and we also recommend full vaccination against Covid-19.

IMPORTANT:

Due to OSH requirements, baggage weighing more than 20kgs will **not** be carried by Hughes, Great Southern Railway, Qantas or our coach operator.

****Conditions Apply****

DOMESTIC TOUR BOOKING CONDITIONS

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Please ask your consultant for details.

EVENTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF SPARK TRAVEL:

Should an event occur which is beyond the control of Spark Travel, ie: delays to ship, aircraft, train, coach thereby incurring extra expenses, these additional costs are borne by the passenger at the time of the event. A travel insurance claim for reimbursement should be submitted to the insurance company upon return home. Please keep any receipts. It should be understood that neither Spark Travel nor any subsidiary company or representative shall be liable for any loss, injury or damage arising from our services.

ITINERARIES:

Itineraries are subject to change and no responsibility can be accepted. Coach operator and size of coach may be changed at the discretion of Spark Travel without notice. Where a tour does not meet minimum numbers travelling together on the outward journey a cost surcharge will apply. If group numbers fall below 15 adult paying passengers no tour leader will be provided. No itemisation of tour arrangements can be given and no refund for any portion of a tour not taken. Flora and fauna as described in an itinerary is nature and as such cannot be guaranteed.

ACCOMMODATION:

Spark Travel reserves the right to alter hotel/motel accommodation and to substitute a suitable alternative. Where accommodation is booked on a 'will share basis,' at the time of finalisation if there is nobody suitable to share with, it may be necessary to pay the appropriate single supplement. Spark Travel does not accept any responsibility for the non-compatibility of 'sharing' clients. If by choice a single room is requested and booked a single room surcharge will apply.

HEALTH AND FITNESS:

A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. As a minimum you will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided. You must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information. It is recommended masks be worn on flights and in crowded or inside spaces. To protect yourself and fellow travellers, vaccination against Covid-19 is recommended.

FUEL SURCHARGES AND TAXES:

All bookings may attract additional fuel surcharges and taxes which can be levied up to and including the date of departure even if final payment has been made. Booking is subject to final audit.

SECURITY DEPOSIT:

A non-refundable security deposit of **\$675.00 per person (inc GST)** is required within five (5) days of booking.

FINAL PAYMENTS:

The security deposit forms part of the total price, the balance of which is due on Thursday, 29 February 2024, or in the case of bookings made after that date, the final payment is due as soon as the booking is confirmed.

LATE BOOKINGS AND AMENDMENTS:

Bookings made within 7 days inclusive of departure will incur a **late booking fee of \$75.00 per person**. Late bookings subject to availability. Once a booking has been made a **\$75.00 per person amendment fee** will apply for any alterations on selected departures only, and if applicable, one (1) change only to that booking. Transfers to other tours not permitted.

CREDIT CARDS:

If paying by credit card, a surcharge applies of 2% for Visa and Mastercard and 3.5% for Amex and Diners cards.

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:

- i) We act as an Agent; and
- ii) That our Terms and Conditions are in addition to the Terms and Conditions of each Travel supplier listed on the quote itinerary; and
- iii) That it is the Terms and Conditions of the Travel supplier that determine the terms of cancellation and refunds, if any.

BOOKINGS CANCELLED AFTER THE FINAL PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE:

- (a) Bookings cancelled 61 days or earlier, full refund less deposit and booking fee and any other non-refundable services or products.
- (b) Bookings cancelled 60 days or less prior to departure will incur a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost.
- (c) No refund can be given for any portion of the tour not taken and no refund after the tour has commenced.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended for all travel including domestic.

Travel insurance is available to cover you for cancellation including COVID-19.

Please ask your consultant for a quote.

Accreditation

