

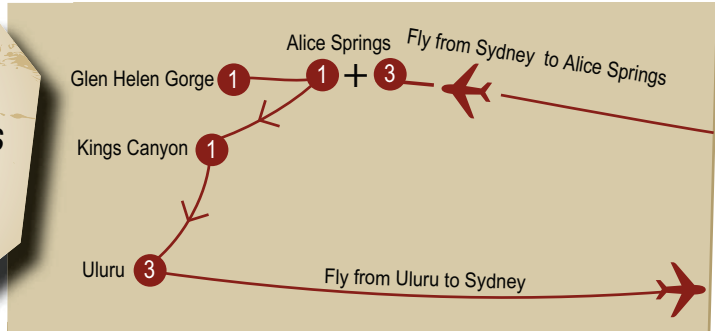
# Red Heart: Alice to Uluru Explorer

10 Days



Back  
to Back with  
our Birdsville  
Tour & Save!!!

Red Heart  
\$3,575 ppts  
\$1,124 s/s  
Departs 19 June 2011  
Tour Number: 9437



## Day 1 : Home—Alice Springs (meals on flights)

We pick up in the Hunter, Tuggerah and Hornsby for our flight to Alice Springs with airline meals included. In Alice Springs we meet guests who have taken the option of catching the Ghan to Alice Springs (please call for a competitive quote!). Tonight you can experience the Sounds of Starlight Dinner, which only operates on certain nights. You can book this before you depart on your tour to ensure availability.

**Lasseters Hotel 08 8950 7777 (3 nights)**

## Day 2: Overland Telegraph Station, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Alice Springs Desert Park (BLD)

This morning we explore the Alice Springs Desert Park to explore the three different Australian desert habitats, their plants and animals, with the magnificent backdrop of the MacDonnell Ranges. We make our way to **Alice Springs School of Air** and the **Alice Springs Royal Flying Doctor Service**, the outback's lifesaving health service. We tour the **Overland Telegraph Station**, one of the early means of communication between Australia and the rest of the world. We make our way to Anzac Hill Lookout, before a dinner and show at Heavitree Tavern.

## Day 3: Alice Springs—Free Day (B)

Today you will have free time to experience a number of optional activities offered in Alice Springs or just relax in the resort, visit the shops and browse through the museums and galleries.

## Day 4: MacDonnell Ranges—Standley Chasm, Simpson's Gap, Ellery Creek Big Hole, Serpentine Gorge, Ormiston Gorge—Glen Helen Gorge (BLD)

We make our way through the many gorges of the **MacDonnell Ranges**, stopping at **Standley Chasm** to see the narrow natural cleft lit by sunshine. We will call in at **Simpson Gap** to walk along the dry river bed which allows a glimpse of the Black Footed Wallabies before taking in Ellery Creek Big Hole, Serpentine Gorge and Ormiston Gorge where we will enjoy lunch. This afternoon we will explore **Glen Helen Gorge**, created by the brief parting of the West MacDonnell Ranges, to make way for the **Finke River**. The permanent Finke River waterhole is an important refuge in the hot summer months for fish and birdlife, and continues through to the Simpson Desert. This afternoon is free to enjoy what this remote resort has to offer.

**Glen Helen Gorge Motel 08 8956 7489**

## Day 5: Palm Valley 4WD Experience (BLD)

This morning we will enjoy the stunning scenery of the West MacDonnell Ranges to **Hermannsburg Mission** home of famous artist Albert Namatjira. Enjoy freshly made morning tea before exploring the mission's grounds, pioneer buildings and aboriginal art gallery, including some Namatjira originals. We drive along the ancient **Finke Riverbed** to **Palm Valley**, famous for its red cabbage palms. We walk to **Kalaranga Rock Lookout** to see the natural Amphitheatre and incredible landscape. We travel through **Cycad Gorge** and enjoy a guided walk along the rim of the valley and a delicious lunch.

We return to Alice, watching the Ranges change colours as the sun sets.

**Lasseters Hotel 08 8950 7777**

## Day 6: Alice Springs—Watarrka (Kings Canyon) (BLD)

This morning we will leave Alice Springs, making our way to Eridunda and then to Kings Creek Station, for lunch and a walk through their garden. We will then make our way to **Kings Canyon Resort**. For those who wish you can pre-book a Scenic Flight over the Canyon. At sunset, we will watch the changing colours as they reflect back on the rock.

**Kings Canyon Resort 08 8956 7422**

## Day 7: Watarrka (Kings Canyon)—Uluru Sunset (BLD)

We will enjoy an early morning walk in Kings Canyon with two options, either the **Rim walk**, which takes about 3-4 hours, (recommended for reasonably fit walkers, 6km) or the **Kings Creek Walk** (a 2.6km walk of approximately 1 hour). **The Creek Walk** meanders along **Kings Creek**, ending at a lookout point. Half of this walk has wheel chair access. We revisit Kings Creek Station for lunch, and see the camels, with an opportunity to have a ride if you wish. We then make our way to **Uluru**, with the opportunity to stop for a photo of **Mount Connor**. We arrive in **World Heritage Listed Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park** for a sunset viewing of the rock from **Kata Tjuta**. We stay at Ayers Rock Resort, at the 4 star Outback Pioneer Motel.

**Outback Pioneer Motel 08 8957 7888 (3 nights)**

## Day 8: Uluru Free Day (B)

Today is free to enjoy the Resort facilities including the beautiful pool, and the many optional activities at Uluru. These include sunrise or sunset flights, camel rides, harley rides, or Sounds of Silence Dinner at the Rock. Your entry ticket into the park will cover you for re-entry into the park for any of these activities, so please ensure you take it with you if you do any optional touring. There is also a shuttle bus from the resort to Uluru.

## Day 9: Uluru & the Olgas (Kata Tjuta) (BD)

We will enter the park for a **sunrise viewing of Uluru**. Short walks or around the base of the Rock (9.4kms) will be available when we return to Uluru after breakfast at our resort. We will see rock art and learn about Aboriginal Law & Culture. At the **Cultural Centre and Maruka Arts & Crafts Cooperative** you can purchase original artefacts. After lunch at own expense, we visit **Kata Tjuta** (the Olgas), made up of 36 domes of conglomerate rock, with an opportunity to do the easy walk into **Walpa Gorge**. Enjoy the changing colours of an **Uluru sunset** from the many lookouts at our resort.

## Day 10: Uluru—Home (B)

Enjoy a wildflower walk through the Desert Gardens, before morning tea, then make our way to the airport for the return flight back to Sydney. A coach will be waiting to take those from Hornsby, the Central Coast and the Hunter back to their pick up points.