



# Essence OF AUSTRALIA

Fully Escorted 11-Day Tour  
Departing 15 July 2022

LIMITED AVAILABILITY, BOOK NOW!

Darwin • Kakadu National Park • Arnhem  
Land • *The Ghan* Darwin to Adelaide  
Adelaide • Hahndorf • Barossa

From \$7,800\* pp twin share  
From \$8,570\* pp single traveller

182 Barker Street, Castlemaine | 03 5472 3822  
tacc@castlemainetravel.com.au | www.castlemainetravel.com.au

  
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# Join us for an epic, fully escorted 11-day tour exploring the Essence of Australia.

Our adventure will begin in tropical Darwin, a vibrant city with a rich past and which is the gateway to the Top End's iconic national parks and wilderness regions. In Kakadu, discover the remote Cannon Hill area where abundant wildlife and a diversity of ancient landscape elements come together. Led by experienced local guides in an environmentally and culturally sensitive way, learn about the area's importance to local Aboriginal people and see significant rock art dating back many thousands of years.

Then it's time to ride the rails of history between Darwin and Adelaide aboard *The Ghan*, an icon of Australian rail travel and one of the world's great train journeys. Enjoy sumptuous dining, elegant private cabins and attentive service onboard, with a rich and rewarding range of included off-train outback experiences when the train stops.

From Adelaide, a sensory city like no other, visit the iconic Barossa - home to great wine and picturesque views - and explore the German town of Hahndorf - famous for its art galleries, museums, cafes and boutique shops.

## Includes

- Three nights at DoubleTree by Hilton Darwin Waterfront including breakfast
- Two nights at Hawk Dreaming Wilderness Lodge including all meals
- Three nights onboard *The Ghan* in Gold Service including all meals
- Two nights at Hilton Adelaide including breakfast
- Kakadu National Park Aboriginal rock art guided tours
- East Alligator River Guluyambi Cultural Cruise
- Darwin Harbour Dinner Cruise
- Hahndorf and Barossa Valley Tour
- Airport and hotel transfers
- Tour Escort from Travel and Cruise Castlemaine<sup>^</sup>

**Departs** 15 July 2022

## Don't miss out

Contact us to secure your spot on this amazing tour!

**Call 03 5472 3822 or email [tacc@castlemainetravel.com.au](mailto:tacc@castlemainetravel.com.au).**

Be quick, limited places available.

## ITINERARY

### 15 July 2022 - Welcome to Darwin

Transfer from Darwin Airport to the DoubleTree by Hilton Darwin Waterfront. The rest of the day and evening are at leisure to relax or familiarise yourself with the city.

### 16 July 2022 - Darwin to Kakadu

Today we make our way to Kakadu National Park and the Hawk Dreaming Wilderness Lodge. After arriving at the lodge and getting acquainted with the facilities, we'll be treated to a sunset tour taking in nearby rock art sites and nibbles by the Cannon Hill billabong before returning to the Lodge for dinner.

### 17 July 2022 - Kakadu & Arnhem Land Cultural Adventure

Following breakfast, set off on our Arnhelander four wheel drive cultural and heritage day tour. Experience vast flood plains, towering escarpment, rock art sites and Indigenous artists at work at the Injalak Arts Centre, followed by lunch and sightseeing at the Inkiyu Billabong with a knowledgeable guide. When we return to the lodge, there's the opportunity for another sunset tour visiting more rock art sites before heading back for a home cooked meal.

### 18 July 2022 - Kakadu to Darwin

Before leaving Kakadu, we'll embark on a Guluyambi Cultural Cruise on the East Alligator River for a couple of hours, then return to Darwin and the DoubleTree by Hilton Darwin Waterfront.

### 19 July 2022 - Darwin

Today is a free day to do as much or as little as you wish. Tonight, we'll meet for a Darwin Harbour Dinner Cruise.

### 20 July 2022 - The Ghan Expedition

After checking out of the hotel, it's time to board *The Ghan* for the morning departure of our rail expedition southwards. Once you're settled into your private cabin, mingle with fellow travellers or sample the exceptional food, wine, and service onboard. When it's time for lunch, savour the regionally-inspired menu accompanied by a selection of all-

inclusive wines and beverages, before an early afternoon arrival at the township of Katherine where a choice of off-train experiences awaits. Enjoy dinner as the sun sets over the outback, then back in your cabin you'll find your bed turned down. Fall asleep as the train rolls soothingly onwards.

### 21 July 2022 - The Ghan Expedition

After your first night on *The Ghan*, you'll be greeted by a morning view of the spectacular Red Centre. A full day of excursions awaits you in the outback town of Alice Springs before meeting your fellow passengers for a spectacular barbeque dinner under a million stars at the historic Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

### 22 July 2022 - The Ghan Expedition

From your morning stop at the outback outpost of Manguri, you'll venture into the weird and wonderful opal mining township of Coober Pedy, where more than half of the residents live underground. Here, you'll enjoy a day of discovery and a gourmet lunch in the most unique of locations: underground. Dinner is served back on the train where you can enjoy a nightcap as your journey continues.

### 23 July 2022 - Welcome to Adelaide

From your cabin window this morning you'll see a dramatic change in landscape, as the rich ochre tones of the outback make way for the green fields of South Australia. Enjoy a leisurely brunch as you pass through the majestic Flinders Ranges and prepare for your mid-morning arrival into Adelaide and transfer to the Hilton Adelaide. Tonight is at leisure.

### 24 July 2022 - Hahndorf & The Barossa

Today we set off for a day touring the world-renowned Barossa wine region and the historic settlement of Hahndorf before returning to the hotel for an evening at leisure.

### 25 July 2022 - Farewell from Adelaide

After a leisurely breakfast, bid farewell to your fellow travellers and transfer to Adelaide Airport for your flight home, with more memories than luggage can hold!