

Accompanied Adventures 2020

JUNE - Art Centres, Beanies, Kings Canyon & Gorges

SEPT - Camping, Namatjira Country, Gorges & Desert



The unique atmosphere of Mparntwe (Alice Springs) with the colour & excitement of the Beanie Festival (June) or Desert Mob (September). Learn about this region in both current, and historic contexts by engaging with contemporary art against a backdrop of ancient land, guided and facilitated with care and passion.

In conjunction with Alice Springs Expeditions, Sydney artist Ingrid Bowen invites you to a Central Australian experience designed with a great balance of adventure, culture & comfort. Stunning ancient geological wonders, the vibrancy of contemporary Aboriginal art, with everything taken care of, and plenty of time to observe and absorb unforgettable art and places

- Seven days/six nights fully inclusive small group guided touring with a dedicated host and expert local guide
- All accommodation & meals, transport, equipment, entrance fees & activities (flights & alcohol not included)
- Small group (max 10) ensuring a bespoke experience
- Visit Aboriginal art events, galleries & centres
- Flexible down time for your own project or creative practice
- On and off road quality vehicle touring to beautiful locations in order to engage with, and immerse yourself in the landscape



Our June adventure includes the colour and fun of the Beanie Festival & night markets, and visiting art centres and studios in and out of town. An overnight stay at Kings Canyon, and two nights at beautiful Glen Helen Gorge to explore Tjoritja (West MacDonnell Ranges). No overnight camping on this trip, but plenty of outdoor adventures, day camps, picnics and walking, time to paint plein air or just relax and soak up the scenery.

**FULLY INCLUSIVE PRICES*
PER PERSON INCL GST**

**7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS
JUNE 2020**

**\$3990 single
\$3550 twin share**

***flights & alcohol not incl**

June Itinerary - Art Centres, Beanies, Kings Canyon & Tjoritja Gorges

- * Thu 25 June Arrival in Alice Springs for transfer, welcome cafe lunch & overview from Annie Meyer Hill lookout. Welcome to country and special dinner with a local chef and bush foods expert at a scenic sunset location, accommodation for three nights at Mercure Alice Springs Resort, standard room, private facilities, breakfast incl
- * Fri 26 June Full day visiting local art centres including Tjanpi Desert Weavers, Iltpa Ntjarra, Tangentyere & more, lunch in a local cafe and afternoon to explore the town, or do some art making of your own. Visit Araluen and experience the colourful Beanie Festival Exhibition opening & celebration, night markets for dinner (the only meal not included this week)
- * Sat 27 June All day exploring the stunning landscapes surrounding town including picnic lunch, Simpson's Gap & plenty of time to sketch or photograph and be immersed in the landscape, dinner at a local restaurant
- * Sun 28 June Early departure for Watarrka (Kings Canyon), picnic lunch enroute, fascinating Karrke Aboriginal experience tour, afternoon walk & sunset BBQ. Overnight Kings Canyon Resort, standard room private facilities
- * Mon 29 June Breakfast overlooking the George Gill Range enroute to Glen Helen. Visit Tnorala (Gosse Bluff) comet impact site and Ikuntji Artists Community at Haasts Bluff. Arrive at Glen Helen Lodge, enjoy the location and views before our bistro dinner and overnight here for two nights, standard room, private facilities & breakfast incl
- * Tues 30 June Flexible day touring including picnic & walk at Ormiston Gorge & other waterhole wonders of Tjoritja, plenty of time for creative pursuits & leisure, then dinner back at the lodge
- * Wed 1 July After a leisurely breakfast, time for a morning walk & transfer to airport



The September adventure is timed to coincide with 'Desart' - the largest and most dynamic contemporary Central Australian art exhibition and marketplace.

September also typically affords perfect weather for camping, in the most scenic, silent gorge on beautiful Ellery Creek. Feel the benefits of being off grid sleeping under the stars in supremely comfortable swags. There are no bathroom facilities at our special camping spot, but we will make it as comfortable for you as possible.

**FULLY INCLUSIVE PRICES*
PER PERSON INCL GST
7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS
SEPTEMBER 2020**

**\$4390 single
\$3650 twin share**

***flights and alcohol not incl**

September Itinerary - Camping, Namatjira Country, Tjoritja Gorges & Desert Mob Marketplace

- * Mon 7 Sep Arrival in Alice Springs for welcome & departure for the Finke Gorge with a picnic lunch enroute. Afternoon set up camp for our two nights on Ellery Creek, time to wander and relax before our fireside dinner and stargazing from your superb swag
- * Tues 8 Sep Morning hike into a scenic hidden gorge, lunch in camp & afternoon with many options available including walks, 4WD touring, time to sketch, read or just relax, overnight camp again in the same blissful spot
- * Wed 9 Sep Pack up camp after a leisurely breakfast, visit Tnorala (Gosse Bluff) & Hermannsburg Potters studios and historic precinct for lunch. There is an impressive collection of Namatjira and local water-colourists artworks in the museum. Arrive at Glen Helen Resort in time for an afternoon walk & maybe a swim, enjoy the location and views before our bistro dinner and overnight here for two nights, standard room, private facilities & breakfast incl
- * Thu 10 Sep Flexible day touring including Ormiston Gorge & more, picnic lunch, afternoon at leisure to be creative, swim, walk or rest, dinner at the lodge
- * Fri 11 Sep Morning departure for Alice Springs. Visit Araluen and preview Desart exhibition. Welcome to country and special gourmet dinner with a local chef and bush foods expert at a scenic sunset location. Accommodation for two nights at Mercure Alice Springs Resort standard room, private facilities & breakfast incl
- * Sat 12 Sep Morning at the Desert Mob marketplace, lunch at a local cafe & afternoon at leisure, evening Desert Song concert (programme tbc), dinner in a local restaurant
- * Sun 13 Sep Leisurely breakfast, time for a morning walk, coffee in town & then transfer to the airport



*** artists and non-artists are welcome, our tours are suitable for anyone interested in experiencing the culture and landscape of Central Australia**

*** operating in a small group gives us the flexibility to accommodate conditions and the interests of the group**

*** our schedule is generous in order to be able to stop, look & discuss landscape and cultural points of interest along the way**

*** most days there will be time to spend on your own project - be it sketching, reading, writing, photography, or just relaxing**

*** our plans may need to adapt due to weather or cultural events**

For further information and bookings contact:

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Instagram @accompaniedadventures

Expert guiding

With 20 years in Northern Territory tourism and off road touring experience, John Stafford of Alice Springs Expeditions provides guests with the ultimate in comfort and safety. His specialised local knowledge and friendly, flexible approach ensures 100% happy campers.

Welcoming host

As a landscape artist and former travel professional, Ingrid Bowen shares her knowledge and skills by welcoming travellers on an art and landscape lovers adventure to a region she has become passionate about.

Complete care

Our aim is to accompany you on an adventure which may otherwise be difficult to achieve on your own, but lots of fun in good company, and to ensure you have a relaxing and inspiring visit to the heart of our country.