

9 Day Darwin - Broome Off Road Adventure

On this Kimberley tour you will hike, swim, explore and bush camp along the Gibb River Road, venturing into places such as Katherine Gorge, the Bungle Bungles, El Questro, Manning Gorge and Tunnel Creek. You will spend time spotting native wildlife, exploring the land, discovering ancient rock art and hiking in to some of the most pristine waterfalls in all of Australia.

These tours are suited to anyone who is fit and active; they're not luxury tours, passengers will often be wild camping with little or no facilities. It's all about embracing adventure, forgetting about home-comforts and getting to grips with the Australian outback experience. Our guide Adam has 10 years experience taking people all over the Top End of Australia and he has an excellent reputation; his passion, knowledge and expertise is hard to beat and he has no trouble providing an unforgettable adventure. This tour takes you on an incredible journey through the Kimberley outback allowing you to experience the nature, wildlife and endless adventure, as you make your way along the Gibb River Road. It's all about seeing the Kimberley the way it should be seen. We bush camp throughout the tour, prepare all our own meals and sleep under the stars in a swag. Our vibe is relaxed and friendly; we want you to feel like you're traveling with a group of mates, and having the time of your life in one of the most beautiful parts of Australia. The adventure starts in Darwin where your guide will pick you up about 6am. On the first day you'll head towards Katherine and stop to observe the intriguing Magnetic and Cathedral termite mounds, before hiking into Edith Falls where you can take a refreshing swim. Over the next few days you'll head into the Victoria River region where you can observe the ancient rock art, and you'll have the opportunity to take a cruise on Lake Argyle before venturing on to the Bungle Bungle range. After exploring the Bungle Bungles you will join the Gibb River Road and arrive at the famous El Questro station. This region lends itself to trekking and cooling-off in the most picturesque swimming holes. After El Questro you'll continue the journey along the Gibb River Road venturing into Manning Gorge, Galvans Gorge, Adcock Gorge, Bell Gorge, Windjana Gorge and Tunnel Creek; before arriving at our final destination, the pearling capital of Broome.

Day 1: Darwin to Edith Falls

Your Kimberley off-road tour begins when we pick you up from your Darwin accommodation at 6am and make our first stop at the remarkable Magnetic and Cathedral termite mounds. We then continue on to Edith Falls for a refreshing swim beneath the waterfall. Afterwards, we will move on to the Victoria River region for our first bush camp.

Estimated hiking distance: 5km+ Opportunity to swim

Estimated travel time: 5 hours

Meals Included: Lunch, Dinner

Day 2: Lake Argyle

We start today with a hike into the Victoria River escarpments to see some of the unique rock paintings and breathtaking scenery in Jubarra National Park. We then cross the border into Western Australia and visit Lake Argyle, Australia's largest manmade lake, where you will have the opportunity to take a cruise* (\$40). We will stop off in Kununurra before heading towards our camp.

Estimated hiking distance: 5km+ Opportunity to swim

Estimated travel time: 5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Purnululu National Park

Today the Kimberley off road tour heads through the Durack and Carr Boyd Ranges before embarking on a challenging off-road adventure into the Purnululu National Park (Bungle Bungles) where we will hike into Echidna Chasm and Mini Palms. Tonight, we will camp in the Purnululu (Bungle Bungles) National Park in the Kimberley.

Estimated hiking distance: 5km

Estimated travel time: 2 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Cathedral Gorge

Our day starts with a hike through the magnificent Bungle Bungles as we make our way to Cathedral Gorge, Whip Snake Gorge, the Window and Piccaninny Creek Lookout. There will also be the option of a scenic helicopter flight starting from \$269 for an 18-minute scenic tour. We will then continue on to our campsite.

Estimated hiking distance: 8km+ Estimated travel time: 2 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Emma Gorge

Today we will start the Gibb River Road and head into the Cockburn Ranges to Emma Gorge, a pristine swimming hole. We then continue onto the famous El Questro station where we will camp for the night. You will be able to quench your thirst at the Swinging Arm Bar and catch up with the locals and fellow travellers.

Estimated hiking distance: 5km+ Opportunity to swim

Estimated travel time: 2 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: El Questro Gorge

Our first stop today is a series of crystal-clear hot springs known as Zebedee Springs before embarking on an adventurous hike up the palm-filled gorge known as El Questro Gorge. At the top you will be rewarded with a swim in the spring-fed waterfall before we trek back to the truck and drive on to our bush camp, which will include crossing the well-known Pentacost River.

Estimated hiking distance: 7km+ Opportunity to swim? Yes

Estimated travel time: 2-3 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Manning Gorge

Today we continue our off-road tour on the Gibb River Road making stops at lookouts and rock art sites along route. We will hike into Manning Gorge where you will see ancient Bradshaw rock paintings and have the opportunity to spot the Northern Red-Faced turtle that's found in the area. We will enjoy another night bush camping under the stars.

Estimated hiking distance: 6km+ Opportunity to swim

Estimated travel time: 2 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Bell Gorge

We start the morning by taking a swim at either Galvans or Adcock Gorge depending on the seasonal conditions. We then continue on to the remarkable teared waterfall known as Bell Gorge in the King Leopold Conservation Park before heading to our camp.

Estimated hiking distance: 6km+ Opportunity to swim

Estimated travel time: 2 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9: Windjana Gorge to Broome

We start the day exploring Windjana Gorge and spotting freshwater crocodiles, which are abundant in the area. As you wander into the gorge your guide will tell you stories of Jandamarra and the Bunuba resistance. Afterwards, we will grab our torches and sink into Tunnel Creek, an amazing limestone cave system where bats and freshwater crocodiles hang out. We will finish our Kimberley off road tour in Broome in the afternoon but not before a visit to the Derby Boab Prison Tree.

Estimated hiking distance: 5km+ Opportunity to swim

Estimated travel time: 4 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Notes:

*There will be more stops along the way to see secluded rock art sites, swimming holes, etc.

**There will be opportunities to shower e.g. Manning Gorge, Windjana Gorge, El Questro and a makeshift shower at the Bungles Bungles.

***All meals & drinking water is provided once on the tour

Fitness requirements

You are required to hike for several kilometres a day and occasionally swim and climb. You will need to carry their water, camera, etc for each walk or hike. You need to be generally healthy and be able to walk around 5 kilometres a day. Any queries please just get in touch with us. We do not recommend pregnant women travel on this tour; this is due to the risks involved with hiking on uneven ground, and the fact that the roads are corrugated and bumpy which can affect unborn babies.

Transport type: We use a custom-built 4WD ISUZU truck fitted with a passenger pod which has 16 forward-facing seats. Our trucks are air-conditioned.

This Kimberley tour aims to get you off the beaten track and into the remote gorges, waterholes and rock art sites. In order to do this you will be required to hike for several kilometres a day and occasionally swim and climb. You will also need to carry the water you need for each walk or hike. If you are generally healthy and can walk around 5 kilometres a day, our tours are likely to be suitable for you.

If you choose to travel during September, October or November these are the hottest months; humidity is high and temperatures can reach 40 degrees. During April and May there is some humidity and June, July and August are the coolest months, where you will experience cool nights and warm daytime temperatures.

During the hotter months our guides will alter the itineraries to suit the weather conditions, for example, long walks will be done early in the morning to beat the heat. We will also aim to camp near watering holes so you have the opportunity to cool off in the afternoon.

Please bring no more than 20kg of luggage as we have limited space on the truck. We also ask that your luggage has a soft casing e.g. a backpack.

The roads we travel on are sometimes rough and corrugated particularly when travelling along the Gibb River Road, the Savannah Way; and driving in Kakadu, Arnhemland and driving in and out of the Bungle Bungles. Tours running in April and also October and November can experience road closures due to wet season rain covering the roads or because of fires. Tours will more than likely run but the itinerary may need to be altered to suit the conditions.

Teilnehmer: min 6 bis max. 16 Personen (Mindestalter 13 Jahre)

Transport: Geländefahrzeug

Includierte Mahlzeiten: 8x Frühstück, 9x Mittagessen, 9x Abendessen

Übernachtung: Bush Camp

Gepäcklimit: 20 kg, please bring a soft sided bag

geeignet für Menschen mit eingeschränkter Mobilität: ja (genauere Information auf Anfrage)

Rollstuhl geeignet: nein

Die Sprache während der Tour ist englisch