

Clayfield College - Central Australia Immersion, Service & Trek Learning Journey



Trip Highlights

Welcome to Country with Traditional Owners
 Indigenous Cultural Immersion Program
 Walk parts of the ancient Larapinta Trail
 Discover Ormiston Gorge and Simpsons Gap
 Give back through service work

Learn about connection to Country, bush foods, traditional tools and flora and fauna with your indigenous hosts
 Enjoy spectacular views of Kings Canyon as you trek the famous rim walk

Enjoy a sunrise base walk of Uluru and visit Kata Tjuta

This program is 100% carbon offset. World Expeditions Schools absorb the cost of credits mitigating 100% of the unavoidable carbon emissions as it's ongoing commitment to responsible travel.



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| Trip Duration | 9 days | Trip Code: SOG7481 |
| Grade | Introductory to Moderate | |
| Activities | Indigenous Immersion Program, National Park trekking | |
| Summary | 9 day program, 8 nights camping in wilderness campsites, National Park trekking | |

Welcome to World Expeditions

Thank you for your interest in our Clayfield College - Central Australia Immersion, Service & Trek Learning Journey trip. At World Expeditions Schools, we are passionate about providing experiential programs focusing on cultural immersions, physical challenge, humanitarian and conservation service alongside urban and wilderness exploration.

We aim to help build awareness, leadership skills, tolerance and resilience in the young people of today as they prepare for life's challenges ahead. We are committed to the safety of all our travellers as well as making sure that our range of unique educational travel itineraries are designed to educate, engage and inspire.

Our carefully crafted itineraries will give you the very best travel experience, designed by people with incredible local knowledge who share our vision of authentic cultural exchange and real exploration with a regenerative and responsible tourism approach.

Why travel with World Expeditions?

World Expeditions Schools (formerly known as World Youth Adventures) is the specialist school group travel division of one of the world's leading adventure travel companies, World Expeditions.

Established in 1975, World Expeditions was one of the first adventure travel companies to offer school specific itineraries and have designed and safely operated hundreds of educational travel trips & active school expeditions to more than 25 countries.

We are passionate about taking students out of their comfort zone and immersing them in environments that offer unique challenges and experiences which have profound and rewarding, life changing effects for students.

World Expeditions owns its operations in many areas of the world, including Australia and New Zealand, and provides exceptional value for money and above industry standard risk management protocols. In 2019, we were awarded the Australian Adventure Travel Wholesaler of the Year award by our industry peers.

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An indigenous immersion and service and on Country exploration of the Red Centre, from the Larapinta Trail to Kings Canyon and Uluru / Kata Tjuta



trip dates

2023 17 Sep - 25 Sep

The Trip

Discover the Red Centre's dramatic and untamed landscapes on this cultural immersion and trek learning journey. Over nine days you will explore sections of the Larapinta Trail, discover the wonders of Kings Canyon, before finishing with the sacred site of Uluru and Kata Tjuta. You'll find yourself immersed in one of the world's most evocative and ancient landscapes. We combine a cultural immersion and service program with trekking in the National Park and on Country exploration.

Educational Experience

A World Expeditions Schools adventure is a unique learning experience. Our journeys are designed to encourage thriving and positive youth development along with leaving the communities and environments where we travel in a better condition than when we arrived. The programs are designed to enhance the following life skills that will help you grow as an individual:

- the confidence to lead a group and make decisions
- the value of working together as a cohesive team to achieve a common objective
- the ability to face mental and physical challenges
- the ability to adapt to new environments outside of their 'comfort zone'
- to appreciate and care for the natural environment. The environments we trek through are beautiful and often pristine, invariably the students will gain a deeper appreciation and understanding about how their individual actions impact on the environment
- build strong friendships and bonds with their peers and also the local peoples
- basic outdoor skills obtained on trek such as personal hygiene, pitching a tent, helping to prepare meals

Importantly our adventures help increase general well-being and build resilience in young citizens to help them deal with adverse situations in life.

At a Glance

| | |
|-------|--|
| DAY 1 | FLY TO ALICE SPRINGS, SIMPSONS GAP TRANSFER TO EXCLUSIVE CAMPSITE |
| DAY 2 | VISIT OCHRE PITS AND ORMISTON POUND WALK (8.5KM) |
| DAY 3 | LARAPINTA TRAIL |
| DAY 4 | TRANSFER TO TALI WALPA |
| DAY 5 | CULTURAL IMMERSION |
| DAY 6 | KINGS CANYON RIM WALK (7KM) |
| DAY 7 | CULTURAL IMMERSION, TRANSFER TO ULURU AND KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK |
| DAY 8 | ULURU AND KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK (13KM) |
| DAY 9 | FINAL PACK UP AND TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT FOR YOUR FLIGHT HOME. |

What's included

- Flights Brisbane-Alice Springs, Ayers Rock/Yulara-Brisbane
- All meals
- Teachers accompanying the group from Clayfield College
- Professional wilderness guide & support staff
- Indigenous Immersion Program
- Camping equipment including tents and swags
- Fees to Aboriginal Traditional Owners
- National Park fees
- All transport during the tour



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- Emergency communications & 24 hour back-up
- Comprehensive group first aid kit

What's not Included

- Items of a personal nature
- Backpack and sleeping bag (if you would like to hire a sleeping bag this must be booked at least 14 days prior to your trip)
- Travel insurance
- Face masks and hand sanitiser

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1 Fly to Alice Springs, Simpsons Gap transfer to exclusive campsite

After all the planning and preparation the wait is over! Depart Brisbane on your Qantas Airways flight at 0730 and arrive into Alice Springs at 1020. On arrival in Alice Springs you will be met by our crew and transfer to Simpsons Gap where they will have the opportunity to properly introduce themselves and provide you with an overview of the next 10 days. We will have the opportunity to explore Simpsons Gap, one of the most important waterholes of this region and a likely place to spot the rare Black-footed Rock-Wallaby. In the afternoon we transfer to our exclusive campsite nestled in bushland near Simpsons Gap.

Overnight Camping - Buzzacott Camp

Meals: L,D

DAY 2 Visit Ochre Pits and Ormiston Pound Walk (8.5km)

This morning, after a delicious breakfast at camp, we board the bus and transfer to our walk for the day; Ormiston Pound. On the way we stop off at the Ochre Pits, an original ochre quarry and a sacred Aboriginal site. The rainbow of vibrant colours on the wave-like ochre wall makes for stunning photos. From here it is a short drive to the best side-walk of the entire Larapinta Trail: Ormiston Pound. The Pound offers an immense variety of extraordinary scenery and wildlife. We explore the upper reaches of the Gorge where Rock Wallabies scamper about the imposing cliffs, follow the track through scrub filled with native birds: Spinifex Pigeon, Budgerigar and Mistletoe Bird. Keep an eye out overhead for the magnificent Wedge-tailed Eagle, Australia's largest raptor. This afternoon we return back to our campsite.

Walking Time: 4-5 hours

Overnight Camping - Buzzacott Camp

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 3 Larapinta Trail

Today we will have the opportunity to explore more of the Larapinta Trail. Depending on the group we have the choice of a few different walks in the area. If we're feeling adventurous we can hike to the top of Mt Sonder, a 16km return walk that summits the 4th tallest mountain in the NT and the tallest along the Larapinta Trail at 1,297m. For a more relaxed option we can visit Standley Chasm a private reserve still run by the traditional owners and a great place to spot bush foods. After our visit we can stop off at one of the areas important sites such as Serpentine Gorge which holds a sacred waterhole and showcases rare examples of 'ripple rock'. From there we can spend our afternoon exploring some short walks around Ellery Creek before relaxing by the permanent swimming hole. For a more remote option, off the beaten path we can hike to the top of Hilltop Lookout on section 11 of the Larapinta trail for arguably the best view on the trail. In the afternoon we will still have the

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Fast Facts

Countries Visited:
Australia

Leader:
Expert local leader

Thoughtful Travel

The natural environments that you'll travel through are fragile; the cultures and traditions precious and often the communities we pass through are reliant on tourism. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence, protect what is precious and where we can leave a positive impact.

Learn how you can help by downloading the Thoughtful Traveller booklet from the Responsible Travel section on our website.

Adventure Travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. In remote and developing countries do not expect standards you are used to at home. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with your consultant of travel agent.

Important Note

These Trip Notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any previous advertised information, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

time to cool of in one of the Finke River's many waterholes. The local Arrernte name for the river is 'Lhere Pinte', meaning salty river, which is where the trail gets its name from. The Finke is also estimated at being the oldest river in the world.

Walking Time: Optional

Overnight Camping - Buzzacott Camp

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 4 Transfer to Tali Walpa

After our morning breakfast and campsite pack down we head away from the West Macdonnell Ranges and the area we have been exploring over the past few days and head out to the Giles Track towards Kings Canyon and our cultural immersion program. We will arrive at Tali Walpa (translation meaning Windy Sand Dune) in the afternoon and be greeted with a traditional Welcome to Country ceremony. Over the next three days we embark on a Aboriginal cultural exploration of the surroundings including a bush tucker walk and learning about connection to Country. We will participate in a number of hands on activities including bush foods, traditional tools and flora and fauna. The local people are the custodians of the land and we learn how they have lived in harmony with the land for thousands of years.

Overnight: Tali Walpa

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 5 Cultural Immersion

This morning we rise and have breakfast with our hosts before continuing our cultural immersion program on Luritja Country. At night we will join our hosts for dinners under the stars to discuss our learnings. Students will be required to help participate with food prep and general camp duties.

Overnight Camping - Tali Walpa

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 6 Kings Canyon Rim Walk (7km)

Today we will spend the morning exploring the wonders of Kings Canyon on the famous rim walk. With around 500 stone steps starting us off, the hardest part of our walk is done first while we're feeling fresh. We'll have a refreshing and well-earned break on top as we soak in some of the spectacular views. Through our morning walk we'll visit Priscilla's Crack made famous by the classic Australian movie Priscilla Queen of the Desert, where you'll get many spectacular views of the canyon as well as the unique sandstone domes known as the Lost City due to its resemblance of an ancient city. This area is often dubbed a mini Bungle Bungles (an iconic area in the WA Purnululu National Park). You'll have the chance to visit the beautiful Garden of Eden, a hidden garden gem with a sacred waterhole. This is a must do walk for any visit to the Red Centre. In the afternoon we transfer back to our campsite and enjoy another night under the outback sky.

Overnight: Tali Walpa

Walking Time: 4-5 hours

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 7 Cultural Immersion, transfer to Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park

This morning we rise and have breakfast with our hosts before continuing our cultural immersion program and partake in a service program including land management and the local community. In the afternoon we board the bus for our

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transfer to Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park. Tonight we will stay in the close by township of Yulara and enjoy an early night ready to catch the first rays of light reflecting off Uluru the following day.

Overnight: Yulara

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 8 Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park (13km)

We have an early rise to make the most of our morning and to beat the crowds. We watch our final magical Central Australian sunrise while walking around the famous and iconic Uluru on the base walk. We start on the eastern side of the rock to maximise our morning views. We will have the chance to explore the Uluru Cultural Centre where we can learn about Anangu culture and the park's natural environment through exhibits and presentations with Anangu and park rangers. After another delicious lunch we will head off and explore Kata Tjuta completing the Walpa Gorge walk. Walking into the Gorge is like entering an ancient temple crafted by nature. This area is a desert refuge for plants and animals. The entrance of the gorge is decorated with clusters of pink daisies in the late winter. Inside, the rocky track gently rises to a seasonal stream, passing rare plants and ending at a grove of spearwood. Tonight we enjoy our final evening in Central Australia and marvel at all we have learned and achieved over the last 9 days.

Walking Time: 5-6 hours

Overnight: Yulara

Meals: B,L,D

DAY 9 Final pack up and transfer to the airport for your flight home.

This morning we have a more relaxed pack up. Before heading to the airport we have the option to do some short walks or revisit the world class Cultural Centre which provides an incredible wealth of information and learnings.

Our team will drop you at the Ayers Rock airport and bid you their final farewells before your flights back home. Depart Ayers Rock at 1320 and fly via Sydney to Brisbane, arriving at around 2120.

Meals: B,L

This Itinerary Is Subject To Change With Any Change In Community Regulations As Well As Governmental Changes And Natural Circumstances Beyond Our Control.

Country Information

You will be traveling through Aboriginal land with a living culture and rich heritage. When on Aboriginal land it is necessary to accept that there may be some conditions of travel (your guide will explain) and that local and traditional obligations take precedence over permission to travel. Areas may close due to cultural reasons. Consider that Aboriginal land is essentially private land and that permission is to enter is a privilege. There is incredible diversity in Aboriginal culture and each local clan may have their own language and culture. Your guide will keep you informed of local culture, issues, and any considerations for dealing with locals.

Climate

In the Centre, the four traditional seasons are more distinct and temperatures are more extreme than in most other parts of Australia. Trekking in winter (June to August) is very pleasant with light winds, and daytime temperatures averaging 15-25C or 60-80F. However, winter nights often plummet below freezing and there are frequent frosts; please make sure that you prepare for the cold evenings on winter treks.

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Though rain is not common it is necessary to be prepared for all weather at all times. Extreme wet, dry, hot and cold conditions are all part of the experience of Outback Australia.

dietary requirements

All of our programs operate on a NUT FREE basis. World Expeditions Schools can cater for most dietary requirements provided we are advised well in advance. We are able to cater for most common diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us at your earliest availability to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen School program. If you arrive on the program without having advised World Expeditions Schools of any dietary requirements it may be very difficult to cater for your requirements resulting in a very basic dietary plan. Please note that some options may be limited in very remote locations. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. Students travelling with necessary medications for food allergies must have an action plan and have discussed with your school and organising teachers beforehand.

Accommodation on the Trip

On this trip we stay in wilderness camping in sites around the Red Centre.

Students will be required to help with camp put up and break down along with all food prep and clean up. Guides will help prepare all the meals and run the camp, however you will be asked to contribute.

At our campsites we supply tents and swags to sleep on.

- Your swag contains a pillow with pillow cover and one sheet.
- Sleeping bags are essential for warmth. You will need to bring your own or hire one from us.

Equipment Required

This program is fully supported. During our trek programs students will be required to carry day packs with personal items including water bottles, lunch and other personal items.

Carbon Neutral

World Expeditions Schools absorbs the cost of credits mitigating 100% of the unavoidable carbon emissions. This is our commitment to being part of the solution to climate crises.