



Join us on this special 9-day tour as we journey to the Top End. Travel through the heart of Australia on board the Legendary Ghan before experiencing the largest National Park in Australia, the timeless Kakadu National Park and exploring the sights of Darwin

## Departing Saturday 5 September 2020

**Day 1: Sat 05 Sep 2020**

**Home to Adelaide**

**D**

Welcome to our special 9-day tour to the **Top End**, which will include the **Legendary Ghan**, two days in **Kakadu National Park** and local sightseeing in Darwin. From home we make our way to the Canberra Airport for our flight to **Adelaide**. On arrival in Adelaide, we transfer to our first night's accommodation located in central Adelaide.

*(Own expense for lunch / dinner in hotel)*

**Day 2: Sun 06 Sep 2020**

**The Ghan**

**BLD**

We enjoy breakfast and some free time in Adelaide. The River Torrens is just a short walk away and our hotel is centrally located so we can easily walk to most things. Late morning, we make the short transfer to board the famous **Ghan** for our journey to the **Top End**. Once we've settled in and the big wheels start turning, we make our way to the classically styled **Queen Adelaide Restaurant** carriage for a delicious lunch, accompanied by our choice of fine wines. With all meals and beverages included in our Gold Service fare, we can leave our credit card tucked away! This afternoon, we can relax and watch the rolling pastoral lands of South Australia merge into rugged mallee scrub. Marvel as the spectacular Flinders Ranges disappear into the horizon, while taking some time to familiarise yourself with your cabin, then mingling with fellow travellers in the Lounge car for afternoon tea. A three-course meal in the **Queen Adelaide Restaurant** this evening is bound to satisfy as darkness falls outside the train's windows. We look forward to another two days of this!



*(Breakfast in hotel, lunch and dinner on The Ghan)*

**Day 3: Mon 07 Sep 2020**

**The Legendary Ghan**

**BLD**

Begin with a freshly brewed coffee or juice as the day dawns at Marla, an outback outpost in the remote reaches of South Australia. It is here, deep inland, that you will enjoy a one of a kind experience, as you watch the desert come to life at sunrise. All aboard for brunch as you make your way through the **MacDonnell Ranges** to **Alice Springs** where a choice of Off Train Excursions awaits. Alice is an iconic Red Centre outpost. 1,500 kilometres from the nearest major city, it may be remote, but offers plenty to explore – home to doctors who fly, rivers that run dry, and a cast of colourful characters. Your time in the ‘capital out of the outback’ offers numerous opportunities to explore its historic legacy and unique environment.



*(Breakfast, lunch and dinner on The Ghan)*

**Day 4: Tues 08 Sep 2020**

**Katherine to Darwin**

**BLD**



Your day dawns in the tropical north. The pristine wilderness of **Katherine** is stirring and powerful, and you'll have the chance to explore it from the water or land with your choice of off train experiences. Cruise the jaw-dropping **Nitmiluk Gorge**, learn more about its ancient Indigenous rock paintings and gain insight into the culture of the traditional owners of Nitmiluk, the Jawoyn people, or discover authentic outback life on a cattle station. As evening falls, arrive in Darwin to complete your epic Australian journey. From the Darwin Train Station, we transfer to our hotel. Tomorrow, we'll be ready to explore the Kakadu and the Top End!

*(Breakfast and lunch on The Ghan /2 course dinner in the hotel)*

**Day 5: Wed 09 Sep 2020**

**Darwin to Kakadu**

**BLD**

We have a stunning touring day ahead of us. We head down the Stuart Highway to join the Arnhem Highway – our destination today is the Top End's most important asset – the **World Heritage Listed Kakadu National Park**. Aborigines have inhabited the land for more than 50,000 years, leaving behind incredible galleries of rock art - more than 5000 sites of historical or cultural importance have been identified, though only a few are open to visitors. Add Kakadu's magnificent scenery, unique flora and fauna, and you have one of the world's greatest natural wonders. Our first stop this morning is at Adelaide River where we step aboard the **Spectacular Jumping Crocodile Cruise**. See powerful saltwater crocodiles as they propel themselves high out of the water to snatch their prey. With the help of experienced guides we learn more about these magnificent creatures, and have the opportunity to watch crocs jump for food from the safety of our boat. We enter the Kakadu National park and have a brief stop for a photo at the park entrance. Our lunch venue today is the **Mercure Crocodile Hotel** then we visit the **Warradjan Aboriginal Cultural Centre**. The Aboriginal traditional land owners of Kakadu National Park have wanted to tell the story about their culture for a long time. Through the displays and exhibitions we can gain an understanding of the Bininj and their country. The Gallery is definitely worth looking at as well. From here, it isn't far to our accommodation at the **Kakadu Lodge Cooida** and this afternoon we will be taking a sunset cruise on the **Yellow Water Billabong**. Relax and take in the stunning scenery, as we'll see a large number of birds and hopefully some crocodiles resting on the muddy banks. After this sensational cruise, we head back to the hotel for a slightly later dinner this evening.



*(Breakfast in hotel, Lunch at Mercure Crocodile and dinner at Cooida Lodge)*

**Day 6: Thurs 10 Sep 2020****Kakadu to Darwin****BL**

Another leisurely breakfast before we continue our Kakadu sightseeing at **Nourlangie Rock**. The walls of this rock have served as canvases for thousands of years, providing windows to a rich spiritual tradition. We'll enjoy some time here before driving on to visit the **Bowali Visitors Centre** – the Kakadu National Park Headquarters. We have a good look through the centre and have some time here for an early lunch. Making our way back to Darwin we stop at the **Mamukala Wetlands** and the **Corroboree Park Roadhouse** then arrive back at our Darwin hotel for the next 3-night stay. Tonight, we have the opportunity to explore the **Mindil Beach Sunset**

**Market**. It's a major social event and a fabulous local market offering over 200 stalls with nearly 60 food stalls from more than 30 different countries. With the multi-cultural background of Darwin, we are sure to be tempted by some delicious food and smells as we explore the market! Dinner is at our own expense this evening and our coach will meet us at a pre-arranged time to transfer us back to the hotel. *(Breakfast in the Hotel/Light lunch in Kakadu, dinner at Mindil Beach Markets)*

**Day 7: Fri 11 Sep 2020****Kakadu to Darwin****BD**

Today we take in sights of Darwin. Many people aren't aware of the importance of Darwin during **World War II**, so we'll look at the city as it is today and also learn about the involvement and history of the bombings of Darwin. The present city centre was established in 1869 and contains many of its remaining historic buildings such as the Old Court House and Government House. We see the new Parliament House built on the site of the Darwin Post Office bombed during the war, the port area plus the many other fascinating sights of



Australia's northern gateway. We return to our hotel for some free time and we can walk to the local shops and purchase lunch and have a look around. Late afternoon we will be heading to the Stokes Hill Wharf with a visit to the **Royal Flying Doctor Service and Bombing of Darwin tourist facility** - two iconic stories in one iconic location! Whilst here we join the **Spirit of Darwin** for a sunset dinner cruise on **Darwin Harbour**. We will see the Darwin skyline from a totally different perspective while enjoying an interesting commentary and dinner.

*(Breakfast in hotel, Lunch own expense and arrangements, dinner cruise on Darwin Harbour)*

**Day 8: Sat 12 Sep 2020****Darwin to Canberra****B**

Enjoy one last buffet breakfast in Darwin, before we complete our check out formalities and head to suburban Winnellie and the **Darwin Aviation Museum**. Here there is an impressive collection of the Territory's aviation history. A massive B52 Bomber dwarfs other exhibits, including Mirage and Sabre jets, a Spitfire replica, Wessex and Huey Cobra helicopters. From here we are transferred to the Darwin airport for our direct flight to Sydney where we change planes and head to Canberra. On arrival we have a short walk to our hotel where we can spend the night and head home tomorrow.



*(Breakfast in hotel, Lunch own expense and arrangements, light dinner served inflight)*

**Day 9: Sun 13 Sep 2020****Heading Home****B**

Unfortunately, our tour has come to an end and we pack our bags for the final time. Following breakfast, we board the coach and return to the South Coast.

*All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions, e.g. churches, wineries etc. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures, inclement weather etc.*

<u>Cost Per Person</u>	<b>Members:</b>	<b>\$5658.00 Twin Share</b>
		<b>\$5978.00 Sole Occupancy</b>
	<b>Non-members:</b>	\$5945.00 Twin Share
		\$6265.00 Sole Occupancy
<u>Cost includes:</u> Airport transfers, Return economy airfares, 2 nights onboard the Ghan in Gold Service (all-inclusive dining, Australian wines, beers, base spirits and non-alcoholic beverages on board the Ghan and off train experiences), 6 nights hotel accommodation, 8 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 6 dinners, entrance fees, tours and attractions as per itinerary and luxury coach travel.		

Tour Bookings & Payments: \$1000.00 booking confirmation per person and balance required by 31 July 2020.  
Cancellation Policy:

Notice Given	Reservation to 46 days	45-31 days	30-14 days	Under 14 days
Amount payable	\$1000.00	25%	50%	100%

Accommodation: Your comfort is important to us so our accommodation will be of a high standard, offering a reasonable range of room amenities all with private facilities and hotel services. Furnished to a comfortable standard. Facilities in some remote areas may be less elaborate.

Meals: Breakfast is supplied each day. Lunch is supplied on day 2,3,4 & 5, and evening meal is supplied each night, please note dinner on day 8 will be an inflight meal. All meals supplied will offer a wonderful diversity. An excellent standard of cuisines is an essential part of your holiday.

Meal codes as seen in itinerary: (B) = Full cooked breakfast (L) = Lunch (D) = Evening

What to Bring: Usually casual so bring comfortable casual clothing. Nights can be cooler, so bring some warm clothing to suit. Remember to bring sun hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and a pair of sturdy walking shoes.

The Small Print: Bega Valley Coaches / Helloworld Travel Bega

- Advises the price is effective for the dates specified but maybe subject to change without notice.
- The itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided. We reserve the right to vary the itinerary in anyway at any time deemed necessary, by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alteration do not adversely effect the operation of the tour. All additional expenses incurred as a result of such delays, cancellation or alterations will be the sole responsibility of the passenger.
- Accepts no responsibility for damage or loss of personal belongings and suggest that suitable insurance be affected for the protection of the same.
- Accepts no responsibility or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport / touring companies used as part of this tour
- If a passenger is a Forced Single and there is no one to share with within the group, they will have to pay the sole use component.
- This tour may be cancelled if numbers are insufficient to warrant economic operation.
- Seat rotation will take place on tour. Passengers suffering from motion or travel sickness are advised to take necessary precautions.



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**BEGA Valley COACHES**  
*"We are known by the company we keep"*  
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