



Aboriginal Art Connections

Taking you to the soul of Aboriginal art

Day one (Dinner)

Today is a day of leisure to enjoy the hospitality of the unique outback town of Alice Springs. Relax at the hotel, or take some time to explore some of Alice's local attractions.

We will have a suitable vehicle available for the day to take us around some of the many art galleries and attractions in Alice Springs.



Meet in the foyer of the hotel for pre dinner drinks, followed by dinner at the renowned **Hanuman Restaurant**.

For the next five days we will explore a number of remote art centres throughout the centre in our **Cessna 441 Conquest** privately chartered through Rossair Charter. www.rossaircharter.com.au



This aircraft is an all weather twin engine pressurized **propjet** with a cruising speed of 600 kph and is certified to fly up to 35,000 feet (above most weather). The interior provides air-conditioned armchair comfort for up to 9 passengers. **Rossair Charter**, established in 1963, is one of Australia's leading air charter companies. Wholly Australian owned and based in Adelaide, **Rossair Charter** provides 24 hour charter service throughout Australia.

Day 2 (B,L,D)



We'll depart the hotel this morning for transfer to the Alice Springs airport for the start of our adventure.

Fly from Alice Springs to Yuendumu – 45 minutes

Warlukurlangu Artists' Aboriginal Association located at **Yuendumu**, 300km northwest of Alice Springs. The art centre is both a stronghold of traditional Warlpiri culture and an essential part of Yuendumu's community life.

This is a fully Aboriginal owned and governed art centre. Warlukurlangu means "belonging to fire" in Warlpiri, and is named after a Fire Dreaming west of Yuendumu. Owned and governed by its more than 600 members, Warlukurlangu art centre is famous for its gloriously colourful acrylic paintings and fine limited-edition prints. Many of its members' works are highly collectable.



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Established in 1985, Warlukurlangu Artists' Aboriginal Association has a well-regarded international profile. Artworks have been featured in hundreds of exhibitions around the globe and have been reproduced in many publications. Historically Warlukurlangu Artists embraced the modern palette; full spectrum high key colour is their signature.

www.warlu.com

After lunch, fly from Yuendumu to Ayers Rock – 1 hour and check in at our accommodation at Ayers Rock Resort.

Our accommodation each night will be at **Sails in the Desert Hotel** at Ayers Rock Resort.

Ayers Rock Resort lies at the gateway to Uluru – Kata Tjuta National Park, in Australia's Northern Territory. Given its remote location, a resort of world class standards is possibly something you might not have expected to find here in the Outback. Ayers Rock Resort is all that and more.



Named after the soaring white sails that crown its roof, **Sails in the Desert Hotel** is Voyages Ayers Rock Resort's premium hotel. The interior decor focuses on Aboriginal heritage and culture, with a gallery in the lobby and significant artworks featured throughout the public areas and in the private rooms.

www.ayersrockresort.com.au/sails

Day 3 (B,L,D)

Fly to Warburton – 1.25 hours



Warburton Arts is nestled in the Warburton Community, which is situated between the Gibson and Great Victoria Deserts of Western Australia, in the heart of the Ngaanyatjarra Aboriginal Homelands. Located between Kalgoorlie and Alice Springs on the Outback Highway, approximately 1000kms north east of Kalgoorlie along the Great Central Road.

Warburton Community by virtue of its isolation and strong maintenance of traditional culture has emerged from the last millennium with a robust cultural life. This has found expression in artworks of a recognised quality, which is owned and curated by the community. Ngaanyatjarra people have chosen to represent themselves through this material to a wider public.

www.warburtonarts.com



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Fly to Blackstone – 30 minutes

Blackstone (Papulankutja)

Between the Western Desert and the Great Victoria Desert is Blackstone, home of the Papulankutja Aboriginal community. A picturesque place at the foot of the Blackstone Ranges, it has plentiful ground water supply and many trees. Blackstone is like a small oasis where bush tuckers are in good supply and people can retain their culture and speak their native Ngaanyatjarra language without the intrusive elements of western culture.

Papulankutja Artists is a busy centre where many activities are undertaken. The women run a Home and Community Care program providing many services to the aged and others in need of care, including meals, laundry, social and cultural activities. There has been a long history of art and craft at Papulankutja, the women's centre is the hub for this activity. Men and women gather there to create their art. Art works include acrylic paintings on canvas, Spinifex on paper, Spinifex sculptures and unique jigsaws.



www.papulankutja.com.au

Return to Yulara – 45 minutes
Overnight at Sails in the Desert Hotel

Day 4 (B,L,D)

Fly to Patjarr – 1.25 hours

Kayili Artists (Patjarr)

Patjarr is located 243 klms north-north west of Warburton by road, or 92 nautical miles by direct airline, and located in the Clutterbuck Hills area. It is a very small community that was established in 1992 as an outstation of Warburton, with an Advisor and a population of 30 people.

The **Patjarr Culture Centre** is right next to the airstrip, art making is the hub of the community. This is where the artists will meet us and present their work.



Enjoy Lunch here before flying onto Warakurna

www.kayili.com.au



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Fly to Warakurna – 40 minutes

Warakurna Artists



Warakurna is a remote community situated on the Great Central Road in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands of Western Australia, approximately 330km from Uluru near the border with the Northern Territory. The township of approximately 180 people is nestled amongst the spectacular Rawlinson Ranges in the Gibson Desert, close to the Giles Meteorological Weather Station.

Warakurna has a long history of artistic expression. In March 2005 the Art Centre studio was opened amid much enthusiasm and excitement. The **Warakurna Art Centre** is fully owned and governed by Aboriginal people and provides services to

Warakurna Artists is an energetic, creative and happy place, where men and women, young and old, paint and share Tjukurrpa (traditional law and culture) and contemporary stories. Passing on these important stories to young people is a critical means of keeping culture vital and strong. The Art Centre plays an important role in the community, providing cultural and social benefits in

addition to economic returns.

www.warakurnaartists.com.au

Fly to Yulara – 45 minutes

Overnight at Sails in the Desert Hotel

Day 5 (B,L,D)

Fly to Tjukurla – 45 minutes

Tjarlirli Arts (Tjukurla)

Formed in April 2006, **Tjarlirli Arts** is tucked away in the Tjukurla community, part of the Western Desert Region of the Ngaanyatjarra Lands.

The name Tjarlirli was chosen by the artists, a small group of painters. The aim of Tjarlirli Arts is to work together to bring employment opportunities and financial sustainability to the community. Tjarlirli Artists love telling stories of culture and country through their painting.

Tjarlirli Arts is a special place where women go to tell their stories and sing and dance. It is a rockhole of great cultural significance to the Minyma.



www.westerndesertmob.com.au



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Fly to Yulara – 1.25 hours

On arrival at Yulara we'll drive out to Mutijulu to visit **Maruku Arts and Crafts**.

Maruku is a craft company, owned and controlled by Anangu (Aboriginal people from the south east and west of Central Australia). **Maruku's** warehouse is based within the Mutitjulu Community and its retail outlet at Uluru - Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre at the base of Uluru.

Maruku is the trading arm of the Anangu Uwankaraku Punu Aboriginal Corporation set up in 1984, which literally means wood belonging to Anangu.

Maruku assists craftspeople throughout the Anangu (collective name of Pitjantjatjara, Yankunytjatjara and Ngaanyatjara speaking people) lands by coordinating the marketing and promotion of their work and providing them with essential support services and advice.



www.maruku.com.au

Overnight Sails in the Desert Hotel

Day 6 (B,L,D)

Fly to Ernabella – 30 minutes

Ernabella Arts

Ernabella Arts Inc. is Australia's oldest Indigenous art centre. It has been operating continuously since 1948. For the first 28 years artists worked almost exclusively with wool, spinning and weaving it, and making hand-pulled floor rugs incorporating their own unique walka (designs).

Painting styles went through radical developments from 2002 and Ernabella painting now encompasses subjects drawn from Tjukurpa (the eternal Creation stories); mai putitja (bush food stories) and elements of the early and unique anapalyaku walka (Ernabella style).

Limited edition prints on paper, working with master printer Basil Hall, are another increasingly important art form.

Artists also enjoy working with a variety of bush materials, including tjanpi (spinifex grass) to make baskets and large sculptural pieces; tatu, wayanu and ininti: gumnuts and various seeds which are made into bush jewellery and "art on a string"; and punu: carved wooden traditional tools, and birds, animals and reptiles which are decorated with a distinctive poker work design.



www.ernabellaarts.com.au

Fly to Fregon – 20 minutes



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Kaltjiti Arts (Fregon)

Kaltjiti Arts and Crafts is a community based aboriginal owned art-centre at Fregon. It is situated 350km east of Uluru and 500km south-west of Alice Springs in the remote north-west of South Australia.

Art and craft has been a part of the Fregon Community since the beginning of the outstations days that began in 1961. Connected to Ernabella Arts through this outstation movement until 1974, hooked rugs made from handspun sheep's wool, leather moccasins and hand-painted cards were some of the original items worked on by the women using the 'walka' style.



The artwork of Fregon has been strongly based in the medium of fabric with batik, screen-printing and silk painting predominating at various times. The recent move towards painting as a major art-form has seen a contemporary style of artwork develop, yet the artists have maintained the essence of their original style. They have also, in the process, reaffirmed their versatility as

artists.

www.kaltjitiarts.com.au

Fly to Yulara – 20 minutes

Overnight Sails in the Desert Hotel

Day 7 (B)

After our final breakfast together, check out of the hotel and take the shuttle bus to Ayers Rock Airport for our flights to home ports

End of touring



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Things to remember:

Luggage

Please limit your luggage to one small, soft bag to a maximum of 14kgs per person, plus one item of carry on baggage.

Clothing

We recommend comfortable, casual clothing throughout the journey. The days should be mainly dry and sunny but the nights can be cold in the desert. Average temperatures are 5 min and 22 max. Bring warm clothes for the early mornings and evenings. Hotels and restaurants do not have strict dress requirements, neat casual clothing is the norm.

Please bring comfortable walking shoes and a hat.

Be sun smart

Make sure to wear a hat and sunglasses when we're outdoors and don't forget to drink lots of water at all times. Please let your escorts know if you're feeling a little dehydrated, dizzy or unusually tired as the effects of the heat and sun can often take you by surprise.

Travel insurance

Whilst all care is taken to provide the itinerary as stated, there may be some issues that are beyond our control. We recommend that all travelers have adequate travel insurance to cover delays, loss or theft of personal belongings, cancellations or illness. We can assist you with a policy if required.

Don't forget

Your cameras and all necessary chargers and batteries. We may often be a long way from a store or supermarket and choices may be limited. Be sure to carry spare batteries and memory cards as there will be many photo opportunities along the way. Our hotels will have access to standard power points in the rooms, with internet access or dial up facilities. We will often be out of mobile telephone range. Also bring your note books, you're bound to want to write things down, bring a hardy one, size to suit yourself.

Shopping

Most hotels and art centres will accept Visa card and Mastercard with the options for Diners and Amex being more limited. Art centres will also arrange careful packaging and shipment of any purchases you may make along the way as it will not be possible for you to carry art works with you.

Meals

Meals are included throughout the trip, from dinner on day one to breakfast on day seven. This will be a standard cooked breakfast, light lunch or two course dinner. **No beverages are included** but may be purchased easily at all locations. In remote locations, the choices for lunches may be fairly limited but will be the best available.

Please let us know in advance if you have **any special dietary needs** or medical conditions we should be aware of.

No alcohol is to be carried on our visits to the communities.

Cancellations

Cancellations within 60 – 31 days prior to departure will attract a cancellation fee of 10% of the full price of the tour. Cancellations within 30 – 15 days prior to departure attract a cancellation fee of 60% of the full price of the tour and cancellations within 14 days of departure date will attract a 100% cancellation fee.