# relax, explore, discover . . . new friendships!



Castlemaine Head Office 30-32 Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine VIC 3450

Armadale Branch 1238 High Street, Armadale VIC 3143

T 1300 885 255

sisterhood@castlemainetravel.com.au

www.sisterhoodwomenstravel.com.au

# a unique travel experience just for women

# **Outback Rock & Rail Adventure**

11 days departing 9 July 2016



#### **HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Visit to Darwin including City Sights Tour
- Visit to Mindil Beach Sunset Markets
- Visit to Kakadu National Park
- Visit the Rock Art Galleries at Nourlangie
- Yellow Waters Billabong Cruise
- Visit to the Warradjan Cultural Centre
- Overnight stay at Kakadu National Park
- Visit to Heritage area of Ubirr
- Guluyambi Cruise along the East Alligator River
- Visit to Arnhem Land
- 2 day Ghan rail journey from Darwin to Alice Springs Gold Service
- Visit to Alice Springs including a City Sights Tour including Standley Chasm
- Visit to picturesque Ormiston Gorge
- 2 day visit to Kings Canyon
- Guided Climb to the rim of Kings Canyon (or less strenuous Canyon Floor walk)
- 3 Day Visit to Ayers Rock Resort
- BBQ Sunset Dinner
- Sounds of Silence Dinner

# PRICE: \$6,599.00 per person twin share SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,300.00

#### **PRICE INCLUDES:**

- Personally Escorted from Melbourne your hostess is on hand to assist with making your holiday a memorable one
- Return Airfares Melbourne/Darwin Ayers Rock/Melbourne including taxes and luggage
- 2 Day Gold Service Ghan Rail Journey from Darwin to Alice Springs
- Transfers throughout
- All Meals as per itinerary including all meals onboard the Legendary Ghan
- All Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Willing to Share Option available
- Document Distribution Day (meet and greet) subject to minimum numbers
- Sisterhood Documentation and Travel Wallet

## itinerary

\*\*This tour requires a certain level of fitness. We will be walking some distances on uneven surfaces so please take this into consideration when booking.

### DAY 1 Saturday 9 July 2016 Welcome to Darwin

Welcome to Sisterhood Womens Travel. Meet your tour hostess and fellow travellers at the Melbourne Airport for our flight to Darwin departing at 8.00am. Upon arrival into Darwin we'll be transferred to our hotel with an afternoon at leisure. Tonight we'll visit the famous Mindil Beach Sunset Market with over 60 food and 130 craft vendors to explore. A must do when in Darwin and a great way to end our first night in the Top End. Hotel: Travelodge Mirambeena Resort.

#### DAY 2 Sunday 10 July 2016 Darwin City Sights ~ (B)

Today we'll enjoy a Darwin City Tour including the Botanic Gardens, Chinese Temple, East Point Military Precinct, Mooring Basin and Stokes Hill Wharf area. There is time to explore the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory. We'll visit the sites hit by Japanese air raids on Darwin during WWII in 1942, the largest attacks ever mounted by a foreign power against Australia. Dinner: Charles Darwin Sunset Dinner Cruise (including return Transfers). Hotel: Travelodge Mirambeena Resort.

#### DAY 3 Monday 11 July 2016 Darwin – Kakadu ~ (B,L)

Today we'll depart Darwin and travel along the Arnhem Highway, passing major river systems and wetland regions, into Kakadu National Park. Located 257 kilometres east of Darwin, the national park covers 20,000 square kilometres of landscape varying from rocky escarpment that is home to historic Aboriginal rock art dating back thousands of years, to the floodplains that are abundant with wildlife. Stop at Nourlangie, where our driver/guide will lead us on a walk to view the rock art galleries. After lunch, we'll join a local guide on a cruise on the fabled Yellow Water Billabong searching for saltwater crocodiles and the colourful range of birdlife for which this region is renowned. We'll visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre to view the informative displays depicting the traditions of the Aboriginal people in Kakadu. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, Kakadu.

#### DAY 4 Tuesday 12 July 2016 Kakadu – Darwin ~ (B)

This morning we'll visit the heritage area of Ubirr where you'll have the opportunity to climb up through the ancient Aboriginal rock art galleries believed to be over 20,000 years old, to the lookout for the amazing view of the surrounding wetlands. We'll enjoy a Guluyambi Cruise along the East Alligator River. Our Aboriginal guide will provide us with an insight into aboriginal culture including local mythology, the river's abundant food chain, as well as bush survival. With special permission from the local people, we'll be able to go ashore into Arnhem Land. Before returning to Darwin we'll visit the Bowali Visitor Centre. Hotel: Travelodge Mirambeena.

#### DAY 5 Wednesday 13 July 2016 All Aboard the Legendary Ghan ~ (B,L,D)

This morning we'll transfer to the legendary Ghan to begin our journey south to Alice Springs. Departing at 10.00am we'll enjoy Gold Service cabins including all meals onboard with standard drinks. Dine in the classically styled Queen Adelaide Restaurant Car. With a choice of three included tours to enjoy upon arriving into Katherine, including a Nitmiluk Gorge Cruise where you'll witness the splendour of Katherine Gorge and enjoy cuisine inspired by the flavours of the Outback. Overnight onboard the Legendary Ghan.

#### DAY 6 Thursday 14 July 2016 Welcome to Alice Springs ~ (B)

Welcome to Alice Springs, established in 1872 to relay messages between Darwin and Adelaide and the Royal Flying Doctor Service, which provides a 'mantle of safety' to the people of the outback. We'll visit the School of the Air, an educational service for children living in remote areas and Alice Springs. Hotel: Chifley Hotel Alice Springs

#### DAY 7 Friday 15 July 2016 Standley Chasm & Simpsons Gap ~ (B,L)

Today we'll admire the rich plant and bird life at Standley Chasm. See the amazing geology at Ellery Creek Big Hole. Explore the Ochre Pits then it's onto Ormiston Gorge before enjoying a glass of wine and ploughmans lunch at Glen Helen Homestead Lodge. Hotel: Chifley Hotel Alice Springs.

#### DAY 8 Saturday 16 July 2016 Alice Springs – Kings Canyon ~ (B)

Travelling south we'll stop to visit a camel farm where there's time for an optional ride on these 'ships of the desert' (own expense) and later stop to view majestic Atila (Mt. Conner), before arriving at Kings Canyon Resort. This afternoon there is free time to relax around the resort. Hotel: Kings Canyon Resort.

#### DAY 9 Sunday 17 July 2016 Kings Canyon – Ayers Rock ~ (B,D)

Today we enjoy a guided climb to the rim of Kings Canyon for marvellous views of Watarrka National Park (for those with a good level of fitness, sturdy shoes required). An easier walk along the boulder-strewn canyon floor is also available. After our walk we'll travel to the Ayers Rock Voyages Resort where we'll enjoy a BBQ dinner whilst watching the beautiful sunset. Hotel: Desert Gardens Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort.

#### DAY 10 Monday 18 July 2016 Uluru ~ (B,D)

Today a free day to explore Uluru at leisure with a range of optional activities to choose from. This evening we'll dine under the stars enjoying the Sounds of Silence dinner. Let's hope the stars turn on tonight! A wonderful experience with Uluru providing an amazing backdrop. Hotel: Desert Gardens Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort.

#### DAY 11 Tuesday 19 July 2016 Uluru – Home ~ (B)

Farewell Red Centre as we depart for Melbourne via Alice Springs. Arriving into Melbourne approx. 3.45pm.

We thank you for joining us for your latest adventure and look forward to welcoming you back soon.

# itinerary **NOTES**

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Please read through our full terms and conditions for this tour which are found on page 4 of this document. It is a condition that upon booking this tour you have read and fully understood this important information. Minimum numbers are required to operate this tour. Travel Insurance is mandatory.

# terms and conditions

#### **Booking Conditions**

#### CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL

When booking a Sisterhood Womens Travel tour it is imperative that you are aware of all of our terms and conditions as these form part of your agreement with Sisterhood Womens Travel. It is recommended that all travellers adopt a sense of adventure, an easy going outlook and the ability to 'expect the unexpected'. It is the expectation that all travellers will respect fellow passengers and understand the key to an enjoyable tour is you.

#### **ABILITY TO TRAVEL**

A minimum level of fitness is required to be able to participate on a Sisterhood tour. As a minimum you will need to be able to walk 2km on uneven ground, carry your own luggage and walk up a few flights of stairs. We rely on the information you provide on our 'Fit to Travel' form completed as part of your booking application. You acknowledge that there are no other medical issues (both physical/mental) that SWT needs to be aware of when making your travel arrangements. SWT will not be liable for any damage, injury, death or loss of any kind arising from your failure to disclose relevant medical information. Women with disabilities are welcome on all SWT tours provided you are accompanied by an able bodied companion and do not require special assistance from SWT personnel. SWT reserves the right to refuse to carry anyone if it is felt the individual cannot cope with the requirements of the tour and who may require services and facilities that SWT cannot guarantee will be

#### **EXCLUSION FROM TOUR**

You may be excluded from any tour at our discretion if you fail to comply with our reasonable instructions whilst on tour or if you interfere with other client's enjoyment of the tour and you will be responsible for all costs associated with your tour expeltion.

#### VARIATION TO TOUR COMPONENT

No deduction in our tour costing will be made for leaving a tour early as this will cause a reduction in our travelling numbers and create additional costs.

#### ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

SWT is happy to assist with additional arrangements before and after each tour subject to an additional handling fee of \$150.

#### **DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENTS**

Payments required are:

International 25% deposit within 7 days

35% deposit within 120 days

Final Payment 90 days prior to departure

Domestic 25% deposit within 7 days

Final Payment 75 days prior to departure

On occasion and outside of SWT's control a higher deposit or earlier payment date may be required.

#### LAST MINUTE BOOKINGS

Bookings made after final payment date will be subject to availability and will require full payment upon confirmation. A late fee of \$100 per person will apply.

#### **ACCEPTED FORMS OF PAYMENT**

We accept direct deposit, money order, bank cheque or Visa/Mastercard payment. For credit card payments an additional 1.5% surcharge is payable (non-refundable)

#### MINIMUM NUMBERS

All tours are subject to minimum numbers. If a tour falls below the minimum number required for a fully escorted tour, SWT reserves the right to offer the tour escorted by a local guide upon arrival to your destination. If SWT cancels a tour due to lack of numbers a full refund is offered or transfer to another tour. Should a tour be cancelled, SWT cannot assume any responsibility for any additional costs relating to travel arrangements made outside of SWT or travel insurance not taken out through

#### **CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS**

All cancellations must be made in writing to Sisterhood Womens Travel and will be subject to cancellation charges from the date the written cancellation is received.

#### CANCELL ATION

**Prior to Final Payment:** Loss of Deposit **After Final Payment:** 100% of tour cost.

Regrettably cancellation charges cannot be waived. **After Departure:** No refund

Final Payment dates are determined by SWT suppliers and may vary from tour to tour.

#### **AMENDMENTS**

Once your tour is confirmed and a deposit is paid, a \$100 amendment fee will be incurred for any changes to your tour arrangements.

#### **TOUR PRICING & ITINERARY CHANGES**

SWT operates on the basis of fluid pricing. This is the practice within the Travel Industry where pricing changes due to various factors including, but not limited to changing airfares, currency fluctuations, and availability of product. We reserve the right to change our prices without notice. This can mean that different passengers on the same tour may have been charged different prices. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our tours SWT takes no responsibility for any itinerary changes that may occur prior to or during travel and any such changes will be at the discretion of the airlines and our ground operators. Changes in flights and land arrangements are beyond the control of SWT. Every effort will be made to minimise any inconvenience to SWT passengers. SWT advises making full payment for tours as early as possible to avoid any potential price

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of booking that travellers are adequately insured for the full duration of their tour arrangements in respect of illness, injury, death, loss of baggage and personal items, cancellation and curtailment. SWT offers comprehensive travel insurance at a competitive price and will not be responsible outside their offered policy for inadequate travel insurance in the event of any insurance claims.

#### SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

When travelling alone a great way to keep your costs down and make new friends is to be prepared to share a room with another traveller. We are unable to guarantee that your room mate will be of similar age group but it is an enjoyable way to travel and could mean the start of a great friendship. Of course if you prefer a room to yourself the single supplement will apply. If we are successful in matching you with a fellow traveller we give you the opportunity prior to departure to make contact. SWT takes no responsibility for any mismatch of passengers and will not be liable for any additional charges incurred for changing room configuration whilst on tour.

#### **HEALTH & IMMIGRATION**

The traveller is responsible for all visa, passport, immigration, quarantine, customs, health and other requirements of the countries visited or transited. If travelling on an Australian passport you will need at least 6 months validity on your passport taken from the date of re-entry into Australia. If you are travelling under any other passport please advise at the time of booking. Sisterhood Womens Travel will not be held responsible for any incorrect re-entry visas for non-australian passport holders. SWT is happy to offer assistance with visas (additional charges may apply). Please note that passport and visa requirements are the responsibility of you the traveller and SWT takes no responsibility for failure to comply with the provided advice.

#### NAMES AS PER PASSPORTS

When booking on any tour, it is imperative that you provide SWT with your full correct name as per your passport and a copy of your passport (for international tours) SWT will not be held liable for any or expense incurred for incorrect names.

#### **CONSULAR ADVICE**

Official travel advice issued by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is available by contacting 1300 444135 or visiting their website www.dfat.gov.au. We recommend that you review this

information both prior to making your booking and prior to departure.

#### **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

These conditions represent the entire agreement between the client and Sisterhood Womens Travel. SWT will be responsible to the client for supplying the services and accommodation as described in their itineraries, except where such service cannot be supplied or the itinerary used is changed due to delays or other cause of whatever kind or nature beyond the control of SWT. In such circumstances we will do our best to supply comparable services, accommodations and itineraries, and there shall be no refund in this situation. SWT acts only as agent for the client and upon the express condition that SWT will not be held liable or responsible for any direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damage, injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity of any kind, which may be occasioned by reason or any act or omission of any third party (including without limitation, any act, inaction or breach of contract of any third party, which is to or does supply any goods or services for SWT tours). Without limiting the foregoing, SWT does not own or operate any third party suppliers of services such as hotels, restaurants, transportation companies, sightseeing companies or local tour operators and is not responsible for any injury, death or expense due to overbooking accommodation, default of any third parties, sickness, weather, strikes, acts of God, Government, acts of terrorism, criminal activity, war, quarantine, force majeure events or any other cause beyond its control. All such risk, loss and expense must be borne by the client. Any personal expenses incurred by a client as a result of any delay, alteration or curtailment of any tour, whether caused by mechanical defect, strikes or any other cause are the responsibility of the client (travel insurance is mandatory on all SWT tours). SWT is unable to guarantee exact arrival and departure times, and is not liable for any failure to make connections with any other services, or quarantee the operation of any particular service. In the case of breakdown or other unforeseen circumstances, the operator reserves the right to substitute vehicles other than specified to ensure the operation of a tour. SWT reserves the right to cancel any ticket or booking, or to refuse to carry client where payment has not been received by SWT.

Updated 1 June 2015

Registered Office: 30-32 Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine Victoria 3450 1300 885 255

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Please read through our full terms and conditions. It is a condition that upon booking this tour you have read and fully understood this important information. Minimum numbers are required to operate this tour. This tour requires a certain level of fitness as it may include walking for extended periods of time, on uneven ground and climbing of steps. Please take this into consideration when booking. Travel Insurance is mandatory.







Castlemaine Head Office
30-32 Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine VIC 3450
Armadale Branch

1238 High Street, Armadale VIC 3143

T 1300 885 255

sisterhood@castlemainetravel.com.au www.sisterhoodwomenstravel.com.au