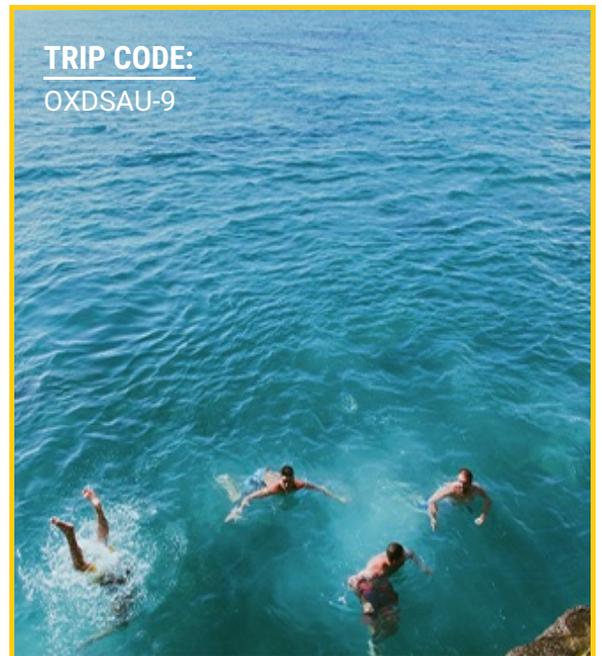


# Topdeck

## OUTBACK GEM



TRIP CODE:  
OXDSAU-9

## TOPDECKER, meet Australia

A trip that travels through national parks, checks out unusual subterranean homes and the stunning sight that is Ulu?u (at sunset and sunrise) before the red rock giants of The Olgas: it's all here. Expect stunning scenery and Aussie hospitality every step of the way.

### WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Explorer



Nights



Android/iPhone  
app download  
info



This is a sector  
trip.

# Hi, and thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

You can rest assured that we'll pull out all the stops to make your trip unforgettable.

Now it's time to get excited about your holiday...

## ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – including where to meet and what to bring. We recommend that you read these notes thoroughly so you know what to expect on your trip of a lifetime. Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can bring it with you when you travel.

Please bear in mind that some points should be taken as a guide only – after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary from one person to the next, so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much!

**PLEASE NOTE:** We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

### ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Visit the Flinders Ranges
- + Stay underground in Coober Pedy
- + Visit a kangaroo orphanage in Coober Pedy
- + Experience sunset and sunrise over Ulu?u
- + Walk the Valley of the Winds at Kata Tju?a
- + Guided hike of Kings Canyon

### MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Wilpena Pound guided walk
- + Opal mine and town tour
- + Visit a kangaroo orphanage
- + Experience sunset at Uluru
- + Experience sunrise at Uluru
- + Uluru base walks
- + Walk the Valley of the Winds at Kata Tjuta
- + Swag under the stars at Kings Creek Station
- + Guided hike of Kings Canyon
- + Visit the Garden of Eden

## YOUR TRIP WILL START

### PICK UP:

Adelaide  
Australia

## YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

### DROP OFF:

Alice Springs  
Australia

## TRIP CURRENCIES

- + Australia - AUD

# YOUR ITINERARY



AWESOME  
TRIP  
LEADER

## DAY 1 | ADELAIDE TO FLINDERS RANGES

On our way to the Flinders Ranges, we'll stop off at the Barossa Reservoir Whispering Wall. Word has it that if you whisper something at one end of the wall, it can be heard alllllll the way over on the other side! After giving it a try, it's off to a local pub for dinner.



### MEALS:

+ Dinner

## DAY 2 | FLINDERS RANGES

Mountains? Yep. Gorges? Uh-huh. Creeks? You betcha. Rivers? Why, of course! Flinders Ranges National Park has EVERYTHING. Today we'll take a hike at Wilpena Pound – a natural amphitheatre about three times the size of Uluru.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Lunch  
+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Wilpena Pound guided  
walk

## DAY 3 | FLINDERS RANGES TO COOBER PEDY

Destination: Coober Pedy, where locals live in homes carved deep underground to escape the heat. Today we'll embark on a gem of an opal mine tour and pay a visit to a kangaroo orphanage. Prepare for cuteness overload!



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Opal mine and town tour  
+ Visit a kangaroo  
orphanage

## DAY 4 | COOBER PEDY TO ALICE SPRINGS

Cracked, dry and barren, Moon Plain is like something from another world. We'll cross it on our way to Alice Springs (just remember to close the gate on 5,614 km of dingo fence on your way out).



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast

## DAY 5 | ALICE SPRINGS TO ULURU-KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK

Today it's off to Ulu?u for a guided walking tour and a glass of bubbles as the glow of the sunset morphs through 50 shades of red, pink, purple and blue. Tonight, it's BBQ time.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Experience sunset at Uluru

## DAY 6 | ULURU-KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK

What's more amazing than sunset at Uluru? Yep, you guessed it - sunrise. Time for a walk! Then: get your adventure on with an optional helicopter ride, camel ride or segway tour.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Experience sunrise at Uluru
- + Uluru base walks



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Scenic helicopter flights
- + Camel ride
- + Segway tour

## DAY 7 | ULURU-KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK TO KINGS CANYON

Dust off those walking boots as we take on Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) with a hike through the Valley of the Winds. Tonight, we sleep in swags. Zip up tight! Please be aware that in winter months (May-Sept), nighttime temperatures can drop to near 0 degrees, warmer clothing will be required for the night sleeping in the swag. Please note that the twin / double / or single upgrade is not applicable to the Overnight Swag Night at Kings Canyon.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walk the Valley of the Winds at Kata Tjuta
- + Swag under the stars at Kings Creek Station

## DAY 8 | KINGS CANYON TO ALICE SPRINGS

Get your hiking boots on! This morning we'll be tackling the hardest part of the famous Rim Walk in Kings Canyon (aptly named 'Heart Attack Hill'). Believe us, it's worth the effort! We're talking age-old cycads, eroded dome shapes, a visit to The Lost City... and that's not even the best part. The sheltered valley and waterhole of the Garden of Eden will make today even more awesome. After a stop off to grab some lunch, we'll head back to Alice Springs.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Guided hike of Kings Canyon
- + Visit the Garden of Eden

## DAY 9 | ALICE SPRINGS

After breakfast, it's time to say goodbye. Stifle those sobs and get to work planning your next adventure!



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast

## MEALS

Your included meals are detailed in the 'Included Essentials' section of this document.

Breakfasts (usually continental breakfasts) are included every day, except on the first morning of your trip. A typical continental breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yogurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, and cheese – with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast, though on the odd occasion a cooked breakfast will be available.

Included meals will be provided at local restaurants and the accommodations in which we stay. In most cases, table water is provided with meals. If you wish to purchase additional drinks, you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements, we'll make every effort to cater to your needs – as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book. You can also make a note of dietary requirements in the Topdeck app when you check-in.

Please note: Although we'll do everything in our power to cater to your needs, we cannot guarantee this will be possible in every restaurant we visit. We also cannot cater to tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.

## TIPPING

### NO TIP NECESSARY

Your Topdeck Trip Leaders and Drivers never expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead – spoil yourself with the money you save traveling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

## TOPDECK TRAVEL APP

Our app is available to download before you travel. With a range of cool features including a currency converter, budget planner, check-in tool and group chat, it'll help you plan your trip like a pro. Think of it as your very own Topdeck Trip Leader in the palm of your hand.

### TRIP GROUP CHAT

Connect with your fellow Topdeckers before you depart and begin your magical friendship in the flash of a winking face emoji.

### **ITINERARY VIEWER**

Get the lowdown on where you'll be going and what activities you'll be doing on each day of your trip with this handy little tool.

### **CHECK-IN**

Plug in all your vital deets and we'll keep them safe for when you really need them. Making your life easier, one swipe at a time.

### **BUDGET TRACKER**

Keep an eye on your holiday spending, leaving you with more FUN-ds to play with. Think: elaborate Spanish feasts (not questionable supermarket sandwiches).

### **MAPS**

Navigate your way to meeting points and lesser-known local gems using pins dropped by your Trip Leader, seek out your own bucket list sites and take to the streets like a pro.

Once the trip is over, you'll need the app to give us feedback about your trip experience. We love to hear what you thought about your trip, as it helps to give us an idea of the things we're doing well and the things we could be doing better.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Topdeck Travel App should only be downloaded once you have booked your trip. You will not be able to log in unless you have a Topdeck booking reference number.

[GET IT FOR IPHONE](#)

[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



## **PASSENGER SAFETY**

### **NIGHTS OUT**

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

### **RESPECTING FELLOW PASSENGERS**

Here at Topdeck, we're all about inclusivity. We want to make sure that everyone has a great time on our trips, and that everyone feels like they're part of one happy Topdeck family.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong – that's just not what families do. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow passengers. The golden rules? Always remember to respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation and treat others how you'd wish to be treated yourself. Easy!

## **DRUG USE**

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Passengers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana, even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

**REMEMBER** – if you are found in possession of drugs, not only could you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if drugs are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you wouldn't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

## **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up again.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- + Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- + Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!
- + Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink, you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- + Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home, too – so they're sure to know of some tried-and-tested ways to beat the blues
- + Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (trust us).

## **HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER**

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome holiday AND have a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- + Conserve water. You know the drill – reuse your hotel towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- + Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- + Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets and book tours and activities run by local guides
- + Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- + Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given – but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

# **OTHER INFORMATION**

## **INSURANCE**

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

World Nomads provides comprehensive travel insurance for people from over 140 countries. For more information, visit [www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance](http://www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance).

## PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

## WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it! (As long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is.)

- + 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes
- + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- + 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- + 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- + 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- + 4 shirts/T-shirts
- + 2 sweaters/jumpers
- + Smart casual evening wear
- + 1 rainproof jacket
- + 1 warm jacket
- + Underwear and socks
- + Swimwear
- + Towel
- + Toiletries
- + Hat and sunscreen
- + Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- + Insect repellent
- + Conversion plug

- + Reusable water bottle
- + Snow gear



**THAT'S IT!**