

Topdeck

OUTBACK ADVENTURE



TRIP CODE:
OXOADM-9



TOPDECKER, meet Asia (TD)

Natural wonders a-go-go. On this trip you'll travel the Great Ocean Road, see The Grampians and Flinders Ranges and get up close with Ulu?u itself. Katherine and the Kakadu and Litchfield National Parks will get ticked off the list, too. Cameras at the ready for this one.

WORTH NOTING...

This trip is a combination of the 11 Day Rock 'N' Top and the 14 Day Down South & Outback

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Sail & Swim



Nights



Download app



Meals

Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?
The countdown's on...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

IMPORTANT: please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- Visit Florence Falls
- Visit Buley Rock Hole
- Guluyambi Cultural Cruise
- Visit Ubirr Rock Art site
- Visit Bowali Cultural Centre
- Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre
- Visit Burrungkuy Rock Art site
- Katherine Gorge Cruise
- Visit Edith Falls
- Visit Daly Waters historic pub
- Mataranka Hot Springs
- Visit the Devils Marbles
- Experience sunset at Ulu?u
- Experience sunrise at Ulu?u
- Ulu?u base walks
- Swag under the stars at Kings Creek Station
- Guided hike of Kings Canyon
- Visit the Garden of Eden
- Opal mine and town tour
- Visit a kangaroo orphanage
- Wilpena Pound guided walk
- Make your own wine in Coonawarra
- Hike to the base of MacKenzie Falls
- Drive along the Great Ocean Road and see the 12 Apostles

YOUR ITINERARY



DAY 1 | DARWIN TO KAKADU

See ya later Darwin, we're on our way to Kakadu. We'll make stops at the stunning Florence Falls and the ancient rock pools of Buley Rock Hole to give you a taster of this amazing place. Ready for 20 days of awesome? Let's do this.



MEALS:

- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Florence Falls
- Visit Buley Rock Hole

DAY 2 | KAKADU

First up today: a cruise along the World Heritage-listed East Alligator River. Afterwards, prepare to be wowed – we're off to check out some more incredible Aboriginal Rock Art. Quick fact: some paintings are up to 20,000 years old. Take a moment to let that sink in! This afternoon, learn some more about Kakadu at the Bowali Cultural Centre, then take in some awesome views of the Mamukala Wetlands.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Guluyambi Cultural Cruise
- Visit Ubirr Rock Art site
- Visit Bowali Cultural Centre

DAY 3 | KAKADU TO KATHERINE

This morning we'll make tracks to the Warradjan Cultural Centre for an insight into Aboriginal traditions and history. Later, we'll check out the ancient paintings at the Burrungkuy Rock Art site. Amazing! This evening, there's a game of lawn bowls in store, so kick off those shoes and prepare to get unexpectedly competitive.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre
- Visit Burrungkuy Rock Art site

DAY 4 | KATHERINE

Wanna get up close and personal with some of Mother Nature's finest work? Great! A cruise along the Nitmiluk Gorge and a visit to the idyllic Edith Falls should do the trick...



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Katherine Gorge Cruise
- Visit Edith Falls

DAY 5 | KATHERINE TO TENNANT CREEK

First up: a visit to the palm-fringed Mataranka Hot Springs, where you can bathe in warm waters of a clear thermal pool. Also today: a stop at the legendary (and supposedly haunted) Daly Waters pub. In the mood for a brewski?



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Daly Waters historic pub
- Mataranka Hot Springs

DAY 6 | TENNANT CREEK TO ALICE SPRINGS

Cheerio, Tennant Creek – today it's onwards to Alice Springs. Along the way, we'll make a pit stop at the Devils Marbles, a collection of huuuuuge, millions-of-years-old granite boulders. Fill up that camera roll!



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit the Devils Marbles

DAY 7 | ALICE SPRINGS TO ULURU-KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK

After leaving Alice Springs behind us, we'll make tracks to Yulara and Ulu?u-Kata Tju?a National Park (the home of the big red rock itself). Get those road trip songs ready! Tonight: raise a glass and watch the sun go down over the most iconic Aussie landmark. Wow.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Experience sunset at Ulu?
u

DAY 8 | ULURU-KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK

After seeing Ulu?u at sunrise we'll head for a base walk around the famous site. Then, there's loads of awesome optional activities. Anyone for a helicopter ride or camel ride?



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Experience sunrise at Ulu?
u
- Ulu?u base walks



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Scenic helicopter flights
- Camel ride
- Segway tour

DAY 9 | ULURU-KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK TO KINGS CANYON

Today, we'll move on to Kings Canyon. There's plenty of time to do optional quad biking before we go all-out outback with a sleep under the stars in custom swags. Please be aware that in winter months (May-Sept), nighttime temperatures can drop to near 0 degrees so 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:

- Swag under the stars at Kings Creek Station



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Quad biking

DAY 10 | KINGS CANYON TO ALICE SPRINGS

Heads up – we'll be tackling a serious set of 500 steps before we get to the shady oasis that is the Garden of Eden. It'll be worth the climb, promise! When you're all tuckered out, we'll hit the road to Alice Springs.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

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

DAY 11 | ALICE SPRINGS

You've got a free day to spend however you please in Alice Springs.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 12 | ALICE SPRINGS 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. Please note that the twin / double / or single upgrade is not applicable to the overnight underground stay.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Opal mine and town tour

DAY 13 | COOBER PEDY TO FLINDERS RANGES

Grab brekkie and fuel up, 'cos today we'll pay a visit to a kangaroo orphanage. Prepare for cuteness overload! After, it's all aboard the coach as we shimmy on over to Flinders Ranges.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit a kangaroo orphanage

DAY 14 | 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 Ulu?u. We've also got all your meals covered today. You're welcome.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Wilpena Pound guided walk

DAY 15 | FLINDERS RANGES TO ADELAIDE

On our way out of 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 allllll the way over on the other side! After giving it a try, we hit the road once more.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 16 | ADELAIDE

With heaps of bars and an awesome live music scene, your day in Adelaide is likely to pass by in a flash. Best get a move on!



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 17 | ADELAIDE TO MT GAMBIER

See ya later Adelaide and helloooo wine! We'll be stopping off at Wynn's Coonawarra vineyard for a wine class with the crew. Because, after all, no South Australian voyage is complete without wine. Tonight, catch some shut eye in the Old Mount Gambier Gaol.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Make your own wine in Coonawarra

DAY 18 | MT GAMBIER TO GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK

Wake up and get ready for a new day in Aus. To start off, we'll check out the Blue Lake and the Umpherston Sinkhole. Next up: MacKenzie Falls, the largest waterfall in Victoria.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Hike to the base of MacKenzie Falls

DAY 19 | GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK TO PORT CAMPBELL

From one natural wonder to another. Today, we'll explore some of the 167,000 hectares of the Grampians and the Loch Ard Gorge. Visit Brambuk and learn about the traditional landowners, hear their Dreamtime stories and paint your own story on a boomerang.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 20 | PORT CAMPBELL TO MELBOURNE VIA THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

It's not called the 'Great' Ocean Road for nothing! Get snappy over the 12 Apostles before we end the trip in Melbourne aka one of the most liveable cities in the world. Come find out why, and maybe extend that Australian adventure of yours a few more days. Go on, you know you want to!



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Drive along the Great Ocean Road and see the 12 Apostles

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.

OTHER INFORMATION

TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en>



YOUR SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, 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 so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your 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.

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers 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 immediately. 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 do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don'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.

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 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 (fact!)

TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely>

RESPECT ON THE ROAD

RESPECTING FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Our trips are for everyone. We're a family – and we want every Topdecker to have an incredible time.

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

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 adventure AND 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 room 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!

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.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: <https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact>

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's 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. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

<https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions>

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.

TIPPING

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

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!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 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 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket

- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



THAT'S IT!