

10 Day Melbourne to Alice Springs Overland



Why you'll love this trip

Cruise the Great Ocean Road in comfort and hike the famous Grampians National Park

Enjoy the flexibility of a private vehicle, the local knowledge of a passionate guide and the magic of camping under the great southern sky

See some beautifully remote places in the Flinders ranges

Check out one of the strangest towns in Australia - built underground

Get up early and see the sun rise over Uluru

Is this trip right for you?

This is a basic trip, covering the highlights of Australia's Great Ocean Road and Grampians, Flinders Ranges, and the Red Centre

You'll spend some nights of the trip sleeping in outback camping grounds. While conditions can be basic and facilities are minimal, this is all part of the adventure. You'll also need to pitch in with preparing meals and cleaning. This is part of the experience of travelling in a group.

This trip requires a moderate level of fitness as it involves a lot of walking, allowing you to truly enjoy the surrounding nature. Some hikes are longer and more challenging than others. Please bring sturdy, comfortable walking shoes and comfortable clothing. This trip

is BASIX and we use mixed gender multishare accommodation. This means, the minimum age for the trip is 18 years old because minors aren't able to sleep in mixed gender rooms.

Temperatures in the red Centre be extreme. During the day the weather can be hot (and the Australian sun is strong) so please bring appropriate clothing, use sun protection and drink plenty of water. In the evenings temperatures really drop, so ensure you have base layers and warm clothing.

Itinerary

Day 1: The Great Ocean Road

Departing cosmopolitan Melbourne, hit the road west to Geelong and the famous surf town of Torquay. From there, begin the journey along one of Australia's most beautiful and famous drives, the Great Ocean Road. Stop in at Kennett River for some koala spotting, then break for lunch in Apollo Bay. Continue on to the Twelve Apostles and Loch Ard Gorge, spending the night in Warrnambool.

Note: Total driving time today is about six and a half hours (approximately 450kms)
Total walking time will be about two hours (approximately 2kms)

Included Activities

- 12 Apostles & London Bridge
- Koala spotting - Great Ocean Road
- Melba Gully Walk - Otway Ranges
- Swim at Lorne (Summer months)
- Loch Ard Gorge

Meals Included

- Lunch

Day 2: The Grampians

Begin the day checking out more of the Great Ocean Road's wonders, then drive into the Grampians National Park – an area rich in Aboriginal culture and beautiful landscapes. We'll visit the Brambuk Aboriginal Culture Centre to learn about the period known as the Dreaming, then hike up to the Pinnacles for impressive views across the Grampians. Tonight we enjoy a traditional Aussie BBQ in Halls Gap.

Note: Total driving time today is about six hours (approximately 400kms)
Total walking time will be about four hours (approximately 5kms)

Included Activities

- Brambuk Culture Centre
- Mackenzie Falls - Grampians

- Pinnacles Walk - Grampians

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Dinner

Day 3: The Grampians to Adelaide

Hike up to McKenzie Falls, the highest waterfalls in the Grampians, and check out other sights such as The Balconies and Reeds Lookout. Leaving the Grampians, pass through the town of Horsham before crossing the famed mighty Murray River and making the last leg of the journey into Adelaide.

Note: Total driving time today is about seven and a half hours (approximately 550kms)
Estimated time of arrival into Adelaide is 7.30pm.
Total walking time will be about two and a half hours (approximately 3.5kms)

Accommodation

- Hostel (1 night)

Included Activities

- Reeds Lookout (The Balconies) & Boroka Lookout

Meals Included

- Breakfast

Special Information

This is a combination trip, made up of two of our most popular trips. Some travellers will be leaving today and others heading on towards Central Australia

Day 4: Adelaide - Flinders Ranges

Leave South Australia's capital behind and head for the hillside vineyards of the Clare Valley, passing through a string of classic country towns on the way. After lunch enjoy expansive views of the Flinders Ranges as you drive towards Wilpena Pound, a natural amphitheatre of rocky mountains. Enjoy an easy group hike to explore the area. Spend the night camping in the Flinders Ranges, within the comfort of a swag (Australian bedroll).

Total driving time takes around five hours.

Accommodation

- Camping (with basic facilities) (1 night)

Included Activities

- Wilpena Pound

Meals Included

- Lunch
- Dinner

Special Information

You'll be picked up from the Adelaide Central YHA at 6.30 am, please be ready to go out the front of the hostel for an early start

Day 5: Oodnadatta Track/William Creek

Today, head north out of the Flinders Ranges and pass through the mining town of Leigh Creek. Visit Lyndhurst for the outdoor gallery of eccentric outback sculptor, Talc Alf. You're now following the historic route of the old Ghan railway and the overland telegraph line. Before you veer off the beaten track, stop in Marree for lunch beside the old Ghan rail station. Steer onto the renowned Oodnadatta Track and pass by Lake Eyre, Australia's largest salt lake. Your last stop for the day is at William Creek, which has a population of about ten people. Temporarily increase this number as you bunk down in your swag for the night.

Total driving time today is approximately 5 hours

Accommodation

- Camping (with basic facilities) (1 night)

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

Day 6: Coober Pedy

Today drive through red dunes, salt pans and gibber plains on the way to Anna Creek Station, the world's largest cattle station. Continue onto Coober Pedy, the 'Opal capital of the world'. Due to extremely hot temperatures in the area most of the town is constructed underground, with residents living in homes carved into the hillsides. Upon arrival take a guided tour of the town, an underground house and the opal mine (with

opal cutting demonstration). The rest of the afternoon is free to explore. You may even like to try your hand at 'noodling' (fossicking) for opals. End the day with some rescued joeys at Josephine's Gallery and Kangaroo Orphanage. Tonight stay in a multi-share underground bunkhouse in Coober Pedy.

Total driving time today is approximately 6.5 hours

Accommodation

- Underground Multishare (1 night)

Included Activities

- Anna Creek Station
- Coober Pedy Mine tour
- Josephine's Gallery and Kangaroo Orphanage

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

Day 7: Coober Pedy / Yulara

This morning, head out on a long day of driving (approximately 8-9 hours). Leave Coober Pedy and journey across the Moon Plains. Pass the Dingo Fence (the longest fence in the world) and take in views of the Breakaways Reserve, which was made famous by the film of Mad Max III. Late in the afternoon, arrive into Yulara in time for the sunset and enjoy some relaxation time at your campsite. Tonight sleep in a permanent tent or curl up in a swag.

Today driving time will be about 8.5 hours.

Accommodation

- Permanent tented camp (with shared facilities) (1 night)

Included Activities

- Dingo Fence

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

Day 8: Yulara/Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Rise early this morning and be rewarded with a glorious Uluru sunrise. While the day is still fresh, enjoy a walk around the base of 'the rock', which is of great spiritual significance to the Anangu people. We walk to the cave paintings near Mutitjulu Waterhole at the base of Uluru where you will be in the hands of an Anangu guide who will share the stories of this unique landscape and explain the Art, the Culture and connection to Land. This exclusive experience will give you an exclusive insight to the meaning behind Anangu art and traditional culture. The on-site Cultural Centre also houses an extensive collection of indigenous arts and crafts for you to browse. . Head back to camp for lunch. In the afternoon, see the landscape from a different angle, perhaps from a helicopter flight over Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This is optional and come at an additional cost.

There isn't much driving today, about an hour in total between destinations. You will walk approximately 5km.

Accommodation

- Permanent tented camp (with shared facilities) (1 night)

Included Activities

- Uluru & Kata Tjuta National Park Entrance
- Uluru Base Walk
- Uluru Cultural Centre
- Kata Tjuta
- Maruku Arts cultural experience

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

Special Information

The Anangu people have dissuaded visitors from climbing Uluru for decades; as traditional owners of the land they feel a deep responsibility for everyone who travels to the area. In 1998 we were among the first tour operators to stop climbing Uluru. The Intrepid Group are proud to be involved with local communities in Uluru and to have an ongoing commitment to providing employment for the Anangu people. You show respect when you choose not to climb Uluru, but walk with Anangu throughout the area and share their stories instead

Day 9: Uluru/Kings Canyon

Today, explore one of the Red Centre's greatest treasures: Kata Tjuta. The Olgas, as they're also known, are a group of domed red rocks rising spectacularly out of the desert. Like Uluru, they're sacred to the Anangu people and are believed to be 500 million years

old. Return to camp for lunch before travelling to Watarrka National Park (Kings Canyon). Spend the night in an exclusive campsite inside the park.

Driving time is about six hours today, and you will walk approximately 2km.

Accommodation

- Permanent tented camp (with shared facilities) (1 night)

Included Activities

- Watarrka National Park Entry Fees

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

Day 10: Kings Canyon/Alice Springs

Put your hiking shoes on this morning and head out to explore the impressive formations and rock faces of Kings Canyon. Trek for 6 km along the Rim Walk, which takes you through a natural amphitheatre, past the striped sandstone domes of the 'lost city' and into the green oasis of the Garden of Eden. Enjoy a last lunch before making your way to the outback hub of Alice Springs (approximately five hours), where your adventure comes to an end. There are no more activities planned for today and you're free to depart.

Driving time today is approximately 5 hours back to Alice Springs, and the Rim Walk is approximately 6km.

Included Activities

- Kings Canyon Rim Walk

Meals Included

- Breakfast
- Lunch

Special Information

For the Kings Canyon Rim Walk it is a requirement that you have a minimum of 3 litres of water with you. Please consider bringing your own refillable water bottles.

Inclusions

Meals

8 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 7 dinners

Transport

All Terrain vehicle, Private vehicle

Accommodation

Camping (with basic facilities) (2 night), Camping (with shared facilities) (1 night), Dormitory (2 nights), Permanent tented camp (with shared facilities) (3 nights), Underground Multishare (1 night)

Included activities

- 12 Apostles & London Bridge
- Koala spotting - Great Ocean Road
- Melba Gully Walk - Otway Ranges
- Swim at Lorne (Summer months)
- Brambuk Culture Centre
- Loch Ard Gorge
- Mackenzie Falls - Grampians
- Pinnacles Walk - Grampians
- Reeds Lookout (The Balconies) & Boroka Lookout
- Wilpena Pound
- Anna Creek Station
- Coober Pedy Mine tour
- Josephine's Gallery and Kangaroo Orphanage
- Dingo Fence
- Uluru & Kata Tjuta National Park Entrance
- Uluru Base Walk
- Uluru Cultural Centre
- Kata Tjuta
- Watarrka National Park Entry Fees
- Kings Canyon Rim Walk
- Maruku Arts cultural experience

Teilnehmer: min 1 bis max. 24 Personen (Mindestalter 8 Jahre)

Transport: Geländefahrzeug

Includierte Mahlzeiten: Frühstück, Mittagessen, Abendessen

Übernachtung: Camping

Gepäck Limit: 15 kg, please bring a soft sided bag only

Die Sprache während der Tour ist englisch