



9 Day Darwin to Broome 4WD Kimberley safari

Day 1 (L,D)

You will be collected from your hotel at 7am this morning to begin your 9 day 4WD safari through the Kimberley region.

We head south, along the Stuart Highway to the township of Katherine and after a dip in the Katherine Hot Springs, we continue west. En-route, we can stop to view the Victoria River, one of the largest tidal influenced rivers in the Territory with an abundance of saltwater crocodiles.

We cross through the border into Western Australia and onto Lake Argyle.

Dinner tonight will be served in the restaurant.

Overnight permanent camp - Lake Argyle Resort (in fixed tents with proper beds & shared bathrooms)

Day 2 (B,L,D)

After breakfast, we head out to Lake Argyle for a 2 hour morning cruise. Lake Argyle is Australia's largest man-made lake, covering 1000sq km and built as part of the Ord River scheme. It offers a great expanse of water from which steep red rocky slopes reach up approximately a 150m, in awe-inspiring grandeur.

Take in the untamed landscape of the magnificent Carr Boyd Ranges along the inaccessible North Western shoreline as you cruise through some of Lake Argyle's 90 islands and inlets.

Then we pop into Kununurra to collect fresh supplies (due to border restrictions) before heading south to the Bungle Bungles.

Purnululu National park (the Bungle Bungles) is famous for the ancient range of unusual beehive-shaped domes, gorges and chasms over 350 million years old.

Overnight mobile camp - Bungle Bungles campground, with toilets and showers (2 night stay).

Day 3 (B,L,D)

We spend today in the Bungle Bungles. The section of road into the park is quite challenging and will give you a real sense of off-road adventure !

Our first stop in the park is Cathedral Gorge, a huge natural amphitheatre, with fantastic acoustics. We then take the walk to the Piccinny Lookout, followed by the "Domes trail walk".

There's also time today for optional helicopter flights (additional cost).

This afternoon we take a walk into Echidna Chasm, which is a narrow gorge of conglomerate rock. The walk in is beautiful, passing endemic livistonia palms.

Overnight mobile camp - Bungle Bungles campground, with toilets and showers

Day 4 (B,L,D)

After breakfast, we leave the Bungle Bungles and head north again to El Questro Wilderness Park, which is a million acres in size.

En-route we stop to view an Aboriginal art site, which consists of East Kimberley peg figures, Wandjina figures and contemporary styles.

This afternoon we take a walk into the beautiful Emma Gorge. A cool reward awaits you at the end of the walk, where you can swim at Emma Gorge pool and the 200ft waterfall that is fed from a series of natural springs high above the plateau of the Cockburn Range.

After setting up camp, there's the opportunity for a swim in the rockpools (part of the Pentecost River).

Overnight mobile camp - El Questro campground, with toilets and showers (2 night stay)

Day 5 (B,L,D)

We start today with a relaxing dip at the Zebedee Springs thermal pools, set amongst palm trees.

Then we take a walk into El Questro Gorge, which is a trail through a deep, narrow gorge, flanked by sheer cliffs. The walk features clear pools and lush tropical vegetation and the rainforest canopy has a diverse ecosystem, while keeping us shaded and cool through most of the walk. There are a couple of places to stop for a swim along the way and you can choose to take the longer or shorter walk.

We have free time this afternoon for swimming, birdwatching or relaxing at camp. Optional longer hikes are available this afternoon.

Overnight mobile camp - El Questro campground, with toilets and showers

Day 6 (B,L,D)

Leaving El Questro, we head onto the Gibb River Road and we'll drive through the Pentecost River to a lookout, for fantastic views of the river and the mighty Cockburn Range.

We'll also view an art site of cuples, Wanjana figures and Petroglyphs (rock carvings). This is also where the local Aboriginal people used to shelter and sharpen their spears.

We continue to Mt. Barnett Station and Manning Gorge, where we set up camp. The remainder of the afternoon is spent at the gorge, swimming and relaxing.

There is also the option of taking the longer hike to Upper Manning Falls.

Overnight mobile camp - Manning Gorge campground, with toilets and showers

Day 7 (B,L,D)

Our first stop this morning is Galvans Gorge, a small picturesque gorge, surrounded by boab trees. It has some interesting rock art and is a great place for a relaxing swim.

We continue west to Bell Gorge, which is said to be the most picturesque gorge in the Kimberley. We have lunch here and spend the rest of the afternoon swimming and relaxing at the waterfall.

Overnight mobile camp – Silent Grove campground at Bell Gorge, with toilets and showers

Day 8 (B,L,D)

Today we pass through the King Leopold and Napier Ranges to Windjana Gorge, part of an ancient Devonian reef system where the Lennard River has cut through the Napier range.

En-route we stop to look at the King Leopold Range lookout, which offers great photo opportunities.

We set up camp and then head off to Tunnel Creek, a 750m long limestone tunnel in the Napier Range, carved into the rock over thousands of years. View stalactites and stalacmites and hear the story of Jandamarra, who used the tunnel as a hideout in the late 1800's.

Back to Windjana Gorge for sunset and dinner.

Overnight mobile camp- Windjana Gorge campground, with toilets and showers

Day 9 (B,L)

After breakfast, we take a walk into Windjana gorge to view the fossilised reef system and freshwater crocodiles can often be seen lazing around on the river banks.

There is also the option of taking the longer hike to the end of the gorge.

The last leg of our journey along the Gibb river road takes us towards Derby, where we'll stop at the prison boab tree, before making our way to Broome.

We arrive into Broome late afternoon and you will be dropped off at your accommodation.

END ITINERARY

B= Breakfast L= Lunch D= Dinner

In 2012, this tour departs Darwin to Broome, on 18th September only

AUD \$3495 per adult twin share and \$4645 single tent

AUD \$3345 per child (aged 6- 15 years) twin share

Maximum 6 passengers

Price valid until March 31st 2013

This tour is mobile camping so we have to erect our tents 5 times during this trip. Tents are 4 man (but we use them for twin share only), Oztent 30 second tents and we sleep on stretchers with swags, which includes a mattress and linen.

Upgrades to accommodation may be available at El Questro (station bungalows) and the permanent tents with en-suites in the Bungle Bungles. Please enquire when you book your tour to avoid disappointment.

Inclusions:

- Seat in luxury 4WD, with professional driver guide & purpose built heavy duty trailer
- Meals, as stated, including 1 restaurant dinner.
- Camping equipment hire and camping fees
- Entry fees and El Questro Wilderness pass
- Lake Argyle cruise
- 1 night in permanent safari tents (fixed tents)

Exclusions:

- Arrival/departure flights
- Travel insurance
- Alcohol
- Pre and post tour accommodation
- Extra optional activities, such as Bungle Bungles helicopter flight (please request the helicopter flight upon booking to avoid disappointment). 18 mins is approx. \$215pp and 30 mins is approx. \$325pp

Itinerary is exclusive to Sacred Earth Safaris and is subject to availability, road, weather and cultural conditions