



## **5 Day 'Family Convoy'** (Litchfield, Katherine, Kakadu & Arnhem Land Tour)



**Tour date:** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
(Maximum of 12 people between 2 x vehicles in convoy)

Experiences & knowledge that will last a lifetime!!

At Venture North, we love designing the perfect Top End holiday itinerary tailored towards specific family requests and interests.

This year, we've bundled it all into one and put together the ultimate 5 day itinerary designed to stimulate and educate the kids, while keeping in mind the parents as well! Enjoy the luxury of passing the responsibility over to one of our highly experienced tour guides who will sort all meals, accommodation and activities while helping share the load of entertaining the kids!

### **Day 1 (L, D)**

Depart your Darwin accommodation at 07.00am for the beginning of your 5-day Top End safari. Our destination today is Katherine and en route we'll visit Litchfield National Park. Located just over an hour south of Darwin Litchfield comprises of a central sandstone plateau which supports rich woodland flora communities. Patches of monsoon rainforest thrive in the deep, narrow gorges and wildlife such as wallabies and birds flourish in the Park.

Two of Litchfield's most famous waterholes are Buley Rockhole and Florence Falls, both of which we will visit today. Here you will have the opportunity to swim and



also snorkel in the crystal clear pool below Florence Falls and relax in the cascading pools at Buleys.

After a picnic lunch we will also visit the Magnetic Termite Mounds. These gigantic termite mounds stand up to 2m tall, having been erected in a north-south orientation which acts as a built in temperature control. These 'tombstone' like structures make the area look eerily like a giant cemetery.

Continue on mid-afternoon to Katherine and our accommodation for the night.

Overnight: Contour Hotel Katherine (family room)

## **Day 2 (B, L, D)**

After breakfast enjoy a leisurely morning as we explore Katherine Gorge by canoe. Canoeing through this pristine wilderness area enables you to experience the gorge at its best. Enjoy the whole morning paddling through the first gorge at your own pace, taking time to spot the native wildlife that call this tranquil environment home. We then find a shady spot for a picnic lunch before paddling back to shore to continue the journey by road.

Next, we head to the northern end of Nitmiluk National Park, travelling to Edith Falls. The sandstone and riverine communities of Edith Falls provide habitat for a diverse range of flora and fauna. Upon arrival we'll have afternoon tea followed by a swim in the large waterhole beneath the falls. Embark on a 2.7km loop walk to the top of the falls offering more great swimming with spectacular views.

Continue on mid-afternoon to the old gold mining town of Pine Creek and our accommodation for the night.

Overnight: Pine Creek Railway Resort (family cabin)

## **Day 3 (B, L, D)**

After breakfast we will begin to make our way to the world heritage listed Kakadu National Park. Covering almost 20,000 square km of exceptional natural beauty and unique biodiversity, Kakadu is one of very few places World Heritage listed for both its cultural and its natural values. Kakadu is home to the Bininj and Munggyuy Aboriginal people who have inhabited this area for thousands of years.

Our first stop in Kakadu will be Moline Rockhole, a special permit area in which only a few select operators are permitted to access; guaranteeing minimal crowds. The small waterfall and waterhole below the falls is a great place to cool down and relax. Here your guide will give you a pair of snorkels so you can explore the underwater world, home to a variety of species such as fish and turtle.

We will then continue on and travel into Maguk (Barramundi Gorge). Upon arriving at the Maguk carpark we will embark on a 1km walk along the edge of Barramundi Creek before arriving at the base of Barramundi Falls. Here you have the opportunity to swim in the large plunge pool below the falls or hike up above the falls where more

swimming holes and seclusion awaits.

Continue north along the Kakadu Highway to our glamping accommodation in Cooinda.

Finally today we'll join a 2hr sunset cruise on the famous Yellow Water Billabong. On this picturesque waterway you will have the opportunity to view a large variety of birdlife as well as salt water crocodiles in their natural environment. Learn more about the wildlife on the billabong from your knowledgeable guide who will make the cruise both fascinating and informative.

Overnight: Cooinda Lodge (family glamping tent)

## **Day 4 (B, L, D)**

This morning our destination is Arnhem Land.

Arnhem Land comprises of vast amounts of Aboriginal owned land (approximately 100,000 square km) where many local people still practice their traditional ways. Access is strictly regulated through a permit system.

After travelling east from Darwin along the Arnhem Highway we'll enter Kakadu National Park. From here we go north to Cahill's Crossing where the East Alligator River separates Kakadu from Arnhem Land. After crossing the river into Arnhem Land a 15 km scenic drive to Gunbalanya (also known as Oenpelli) Aboriginal community provides some of the best driving views in the Top End with floodplains covered in bird life and water lilies running up alongside the Arnhem Land escarpment.

Once reaching Gunbalanya our first stop is the Injalak Arts and Crafts Centre where you have the opportunity to meet and see traditional local artists in action. This art centre has a reputation for producing fine quality Aboriginal works with many displayed in galleries around Australia and overseas.

Next, we will be joined by a local Aboriginal guide for a hike around the Injalak Hill rock art sites. A moderate climb takes us up into one of the most spectacular Aboriginal rock art sites in Australia. It's here where we spend several hours exploring the many rock shelters which are covered in Aboriginal x-ray art dating back over 20,000 years. Relax under the shelters as your Indigenous guide shares and interprets the stories of their ancestors and helps you to understand the meaning behind this ancient tradition.

Mid-afternoon head back to your accommodation for a cooldown in the pool accompanied by drink or two.

Tonight, we head into the savannah woodlands to enjoy a campfire dinner cooked under the stars. Main course will be prepared and cooked with our traditional bush camp ovens, keeping plenty of glowing coals for marshmallows afterwards.

Overnight: Cooinda Lodge (family glamping tent)

## Day 5 (B, L)

**\*\*optional scenic flight this morning\*\***

Today we will visit the Nourlangie region, including our first stop at Nourlangie Rock, one of Kakadu's oldest Aboriginal occupation sights open to the public. Enjoy a walk around this impressive rock, through ancient rock-art sites and savannah bushland which is home to a variety bird and marsupial species. We'll then travel around the corner to Anbangbang Billabong and embark on a walk around this picturesque waterhole.

After morning tea we will slowly make our way back to Darwin via the Arnhem Highway. Our last stop in Kakadu will be the Mamukala wetlands, which at times is a haven for thousands of Magpie Geese as well as many other species of native birds and reptiles.

Then our final stop will be at the Adelaide River where we will join a Jumping Crocodile Cruise. On this unique 1 hour cruise you will see wild crocodiles feed right beside the boat. You will also be able to get a closer look at some of the NT's birds of prey as they come in to feed. Continue on to Litchfield.

Arrive back at your Darwin accommodation at approximately 6pm.

*This ends your Venture North journey.*

### TOURING ROUTE:



## **TOUR COST:**

**PER ADULT:** AUD \$3,950.00

**PER CHILD (6-14 yrs):** AUD \$3,650.00

*Price includes GST and is valid until 31 March 2024.*

*Please note the above itinerary is subject to change at late notice due to weather conditions, COVID and cultural reasons.*

## **INCLUDES:**

Professional guide/driver

Luxury late-model Toyota Landcruiser 4WD vehicle

Purpose built 4WD trailer and equipment

All National Park permits and entry fees

Kids welcome pack (inc. NT spotto, NT colouring books, drink bottle)

Adults welcome pack (inc. destination info & drink bottle)

Accommodation (family share – up to 4 per room)

All activities (excluding scenic flight)

Snorkelling equipment

All Arnhem Land permits

Meals as stated (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner)

## **EXCLUDES:**

Alcohol (can be purchased with dinner each evening)

Scenic flight

Venture North Safaris  
ABN 98 747 038 819  
PO Box 47, Nightcliff, 0814, NT  
Email: [info@venturenorth.com.au](mailto:info@venturenorth.com.au)  
Web: [www.venturenorth.com.au](http://www.venturenorth.com.au)  
Phone: + 61 8 89275500

