

Camberwell Probus Club

Presents

Central Australia

featuring

Uluru & Alice Springs

Sunday 12 October – Saturday 18 October, 2025

An iconic region – Central Australia. Our flight from Melbourne will take us directly into Central Australia for a 3 night stay at Uluru (Ayers Rock). With assistance from local guides we will explore the Uluru and Kata Tjuta (Olgas) National Parks and enjoy a stunning Sounds of Silence Dinner under the stars. Then we head to Alice Springs for the second half of our tour. School of the Air, Alice Springs Desert Park and the McDonnell Ranges are all on the itinerary, along with a second culinary delight – dinner at Earth Sanctuary, a World Nature Centre at Quandong Homestead. Join us for this incredible 7 day tour to Central Australia.



Itinerary Detail

Day 1 (D): Melbourne to Uluru (Sunday 12 October, 2025)

Our morning transfer from the Club to **Melbourne Airport** will connect us with our flight to **Uluru** – the “Red Centre” of Australia. (**Virgin Australia Flight VA1681 Departs Melbourne at 11.50am/Arrives Uluru 1.30pm**). From the airport we head straight to the Ayers Rock Resort Village and check into our accommodation at the Voyages Desert Gardens Hotel. Tonight’s dinner will be special! **The Sounds of Silence Dinner** is a gourmet dinner under the stars. Winner of many tourism awards, the Sounds of Silence is a unique outback experience. The romance of the desert, the setting of the sun behind the domes of Kata Tjuta and Uluru, the haunting sounds of a didgeridoo, sumptuous outback fare, the star-filled heavens - this is the best of the Red Centre, distilled into four magic hours. Shortly before sundown, we will be driven to a special location in the desert. As a didgeridoo player weaves his magic spell, we will enjoy canapes and witness a spectacular sunset. After a feast of Northern Territory delights including barramundi and bush salads and classic Australian desserts, we are treated to some of the world’s best stargazing with the assistance of a resident astronomer. It will be a great night. (*Meal inclusions: Sounds of Silence Dinner*)

Desert Gardens Hotel, Yulara – 3 nights – Tel 08 8957 7714

Day 2 (BL): Kata Tjuta National Park (Monday 13 October, 2025)

Following breakfast we depart on our morning sightseeing tour of Uluru. Located in the World Heritage Listed **Uluru - Kata Tjuta National Park**, Uluru rises 348 metres from the desert floor and has a girth of 9.4km. It’s the world’s most famous monolith with at least two thirds of the Rock lying beneath the surface. With our local Uluru guide onboard we take a drive around the base of **Ayers Rock**, followed by the short **Kuniya Walk** to see the **Mutijulu Waterhole**. It’s the site of one of Uluru’s most dramatic creation stories – the deadly battle between Kuniya (the python woman) and Liru (the poisonous brown snake man). We also visit the **Uluru Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre** and the Maruku Arts Gallery before returning to the Yulara village. We have a slightly later “lunch” than normal at 2pm and experience the richness of Indigenous cuisine with our **Australian Native High Tea**.

The remainder of the afternoon is free and there are several free activities and tours offered within the Ayers Rock Resort Village. *(Meal inclusions: Breakfast, High Tea/Lunch, Dinner own arrangements & cost)*

Day 3 (BD): Cultural Touring (Tuesday 14 October, 2025)

We have an early start this morning to experience an ***Uluru Sunrise***. With our locally based guide on board prepare to be awakened by awe-inspiring storytelling at the world's most spectacular sunrise. We return to the hotel around 8 am for breakfast and have some free time before departing on our morning tour of the area known as the ***Olgas, 'Kata Tjuta'*** or the place of many domes. There are excellent views from an observation deck and time for a walk before returning to the Ayers Rock Resort. This afternoon is free before tonight's dinner experience at a Night at Field of Light. As darkness falls, the incredible ***Field of Light*** glows. Created by internationally renowned artist Bruce Monroe the 50,000 spindles of light illuminate the desert floor as far as the eye can see. With magnificent views, our dinner will consist of delicious bush tucker inspired menu, fascinating star talk and self-guided walk through the Field of Light art installation. *(Meal inclusions: Breakfast, Night at Field of Light Dinner)*

Day 4 (BLD): Off to "The Alice" (Wednesday 15 October, 2025)

After breakfast we say goodbye to Uluru National Park and travel to ***Curtin Springs*** where we have arranged a BBQ lunch. Passing by Mt Connor we head for ***Erlunda*** and then turn left on the Stuart Highway and head to ***Alice Springs*** – our base for 3 nights. Nestled between the East and West MacDonnell Ranges, "Alice" is famous for its beautiful desert landscapes and colourful outback characters. *(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the hotel/BBQ lunch at Curtin Springs)*

Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters – 3 nights -Tel 08 8950 7777

Day 5: (BD) Alice Springs (Thursday 16 October, 2025)

We spend the morning at ***Alice Springs Desert Park***, where we immerse ourselves in the beauty and mystery of Australia's amazing desert. Wander through desert botanic habitats, explore a living culture with Aboriginal guides or see rare and endangered animals in the nocturnal house. There are also daily programs to interact and learn from the experienced guides and zookeepers.

Leaving here we take in the sights of Alice Springs with a visit to **Anzac Hill** for panoramic views of the town and the surrounding area. This afternoon we take a look at the **School of the Air**, a service dedicated to educating students in remote areas before visiting the **Old Telegraph Station** and the original Alice Springs. With incredible indoor and outdoor displays, the story of the connection of Australia and the rest of the world through telegraph communication unfolds. Tonight, we head to **Earth Sanctuary** – a World Nature Centre at Quandong Homestead to enjoy a mouth-watering bush BBQ. We'll be treated to music and entertainment and experience the spirit of the outback through stories of the Aboriginal Dreamtime. We even learn how to cook a swagman's damper. *(Meal inclusions: Breakfast in hotel /dinner at Earth Sanctuary)*

Day 6: (BLD) Western MacDonnell Ranges (Friday 17 October)

We have a great day in store as we explore the majestic **Western MacDonnell Ranges**. The natural beauty in this area is outstanding! Our first stop this morning is at **Simpsons Gap** before continuing to see the towering walls of **Standley Chasm**. Admire the flow from the reflecting sunlight to create a breathtaking display of colour, making it a must-see experience. We continue to **Hermannsburg Historic Precinct**, with time to look through the restored buildings and various artworks on display and for sale and a delicious lunch. This afternoon's scenery is breathtaking as we call into **Ormiston Gorge** before arriving back into **Alice Springs**. *(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the hotel/Light lunch)*

Day 7: (B) Alice Springs/Home (Saturday 18 October, 2025)

Our time on tour has come to an end. With our bags packed we are transferred to the airport for our return flight **(QANTAS Flight QF797 Departs Alice Springs at 12.35pm/Arrives Melbourne at 4.40pm)**. We arrive back into **Melbourne** where we are met by our local transfer company for the drive back to the Club to complete an incredible time in **Central Australia**. *(Meal inclusions: Breakfast in the hotel)*

Tour Cost

\$3670 per person twin/double share

Minimum 30/Add \$950 for guaranteed single room – on application.

\$3790 minimum 25/\$3970 minimum 20

AIR

Melbourne/Ayers Rock (Virgin Australia Flight VA1681) and Alice Springs/Melbourne (QANTAS Flight QF797)

\$552 to be added

Tour Price includes accommodation as per the itinerary (subject to availability), meals as indicated (B= Cooked breakfast, L= Light or packed lunch, D = Buffet or limited choice dinner) deluxe touring coach with seatbelts, attractions, airport transfers from/to Wangaratta, entries as noted. Seats on this tour are limited. If you would like to make a reservation, please contact Iain Morley, Trip Co-Ordinator at Camberwell Probus on Tel 0418 374 068.

Tour Conditions

The deposit \$500 per person to secure booking is fully refundable up to 60 days from departure. Deposit paid is non refundable within 60 days of departure. Balance of payment is due 45 days prior to departure. For any cancellation within 45 days of departure there is an additional cancellation fee of \$250 per person. No refund inside 14 days. Please note, further cancellation fees may apply based on the timing of cancellations from third parties.

The Itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, it maybe necessary to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the organiser's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. Last minute changes to the itinerary may be required for weather-based cancellations or those closures made at the venue's discretion. All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions, e.g. churches, wineries etc.

Please Note

Travel insurance is strongly recommended to safeguard against loss due to cancellation resulting from an unforeseen event.



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Contact

**For more information and reservations please contact
Iain Morley -0418 374 068**