

**Darwin to Cairns** 17-Day Camping Tours \$5,970

# **Highlights**

- Kakadu & Ngurrungurrudiba Cruise
- Litchfield NP & Waterfalls
- Croc Feeding, Heli & Airboat Tour
- · Nitmiluk Gorge & Sunset Dinner Cruise
- · Cultural Stories, Painting & Spear Throwing
- Hot Springs (Mataranka) & Elsey Homestead
- · Limmen NP & The Lost City
- Burketown & Salt Pans Flight
- Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill)
- Riversleigh Fossil Site
- Undara Lava Tubes
- 4 x 2-night stays!

# **Inclusions**

# Guides

• 1 Guide & 1 Cook

### Transportation (Isuzu)

- 19-seat, Airconditioned 4WD Coach
- 3 x Water Cruises, 1 x Plane flight, 1 x Heli Flight, 1 x Airboat Ride

#### Accommodation

- 4-Man Tents (sleeps 1 or 2), 6 ft high
- Mattress, pillow, sheets & blanket

• Breakfast, lunch, dinner +5 dinners out 7 Outsourced Tours Included!

Info@Cockatours.com













# **Gulf Savannah Overview**

The Gulf Savannah traverses a diversity of stunning scenery from Cairns to Darwin. Over 17 days we witness the best of the Northern Territory's 'Top End' including Litchfield & Kakadu NP, Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge, Bitter Springs, Limmen NP and the Lost City, Boodiamulla (Lawn Hill) and Riversleigh, as well as Burketown's expansive salt pans and walking through ancient lava tubes at Undara. We've crafted the best, most comprehensive tour from available opportunities and extensive research to bring you the best Gulf Savannah experience possible!

B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner H: Hike Shoes Needed, T: Togs Needed, F: Washing Facilities

# Itinerary

Pickups starting at 600am. We head straight to the action at Top End Safari Camp. Here you go on airboat tour through famous Sweet's Lagoon, as well as a larger houseboat cruise. You will witness the massive rescue crocs being fed before being flown over the floodplains in a helicopter. Tonight, we camp at a scenic share dinner out as a group.

#### Day 2 (BLD, HTF) Batchelor

Today we head into Litchfield National Park, Litchfield is a stunning park in the NT's north-west, rich with stunning waterfalls that plunge into magical swimming holes! We pull in to check out and swim at Wangi Falls & Buley Rockhole and pass by some amazing & very Bar, the famous crossing point of Leichardt's overland party in 1845. picturesque termite mounds! Tonight, we camp just on the outskirts

#### Day 3 (BLD, HF) Cooinda

This morning we head east into the world-famous, Kakadu National Park! On the way to camp, we'll check out the stunning Burrungkuy (Nourlangie) Rock Art. We camp for 2 nights giving us time to explore! Tonight we have a special treat for you!

# Day 4 (BLD, HF) Cooinda

With an early start (no tent pack down today), we head to Ubirr Rock to see incredible rock art and walk to the lookout in the cool. We will swing by the famous Cahill's crossing and then head back to camp to the incredible Warradjan Cultural Centre. To finish the day, we head out on Ngurrungurrudjba (Yellow Water) for a sunset cruise and to see crocs, buffaloes and birds play in a wetland paradise!

## Day 5 (BLD, HT) Katherine

Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge National Park. On our way there we will day and head to the station house for dinner! pull into historic town. Pine Creek. We'll also check out one of the stunning local waterfalls. This afternoon we will set up camp early and have some time in the afternoon to do one of the local hikes in



Nitmiluk NP. It can be very hot, so timing your walks is critical; early Day 12 (BLD, H) Boodjamulla NP morning and late afternoon are best.

### Day 6 (BLD, HS) Katherine

This morning you will have time for some more walks in the cool of the day. We will pop into town in the heat of the day to do some shopping. We finish the day off with a 3.5-hour Nitmiluk Gorge cruise while enjoying a setting sun and a 3-course meal! Cruising through Today we have a few exciting activities up our sleeve. We start the the gorge, we can hear all the wonderful sounds of the local wildlife. day by heading an hour south to the world-famous Riversleigh Fossil

### Day 7 (BLD, F) Mataranka

Today we visit Top Didj Cultural Experience & Art Centre. Here we have a unique cultural tour! A local Traditional Owner will guide you through creating a painting of your own. You will also learn how to throw a spear under his careful tutelage! We head off to Mataranka this afternoon and will setup camp early! We are here for 2 nights. This will be a good chance to do washing and reset. Tonight, we camp right near the natural, and stunning Bitter Springs.

#### Day 8 (BLD, TSF) Mataranka

Today will be a nice, slow day! This morning we will visit the Elsey Cemetery & Homestead (an immaculate replica), based off the 1982 film 'We of the Never Never'. From here we can stroll down to Mataranka Springs for a dip. We will return to camp and put our feet campground on the ocean. We have an easy start to the tour and up for the day. From camp you can stroll down the road and soak your body in the hot thermal pools!

#### Day 9 (BLD, H) Munbililla

We have an adventure ahead of us today, with some rough dirt roads ahead in Limmen NP. Time permitting we will check some sites in Elsey NP on the way out of town. Closer to camp we will visit Roper

# Day 10 (BLD, HT) Southern Lost City

Nudging deeper into Limmen NP today, we pull into Lomarieum Lagoon nice and early to do a little wildlife & bird spotting. A stunning lagoon filled with water lilies, it bares resemblance to many of the lagoons in Rinyirru (Lakefield, Qld) & Kakadu National park. We pass Towns River Crossing. We then visit the gorgeous Butterfly Falls to coold down! Our last stop of the day is the stunning sandstone formations that make up the Southern Lost City and hike around the loop track. Tonight we camp here!

## Day 11 (BLD, HTFS) Hell's Gate

Today is a long transit day on some stunning outback roads that run parallel to the Gulf of Carpentaria. We stop in Borroloola to do some shopping. We cross two beautiful rivers today; the Calvert & Robinson Rivers. Later today we make camp at the popular Hell's Gate. Time permitting, we might take a peek at Hell's Gates as the A nice cruisy day today, we head south out of Kakadu and over into sun sinks into the horizon. Tonight, we will treat ourselves after a big

Today we weave our way through some more stunning outback & station roads towards Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park & Adels Grove. We should have some spare time this arvy to either jump in the kayaks or go for a hike! This place is breathtaking!

#### Day 13 (BLD, HT) Boodjamulla NP

Site #4. Here we take a short, easy walk through the fossil trail. David Attenborough is quoted as saying this site is one of four of the most important fossil deposits on the planet. Whilst the fossils aren't huge, the sheer number of fossils here has helped describe and fill in many gaps in our archaeological understanding.

Heading back to Lawn Hill, you will have plenty of time to hire a kayak near camp and paddle up the gorge to the first set of falls. There are some stunning walks here, including Indarri lookout, a perfect point to view the cascades from above. In the afternoon you will have free time for hiking or kayaking. On the day we may shuffle these depending on what works best.

#### Day 14 (BLD, SF) Burketown

We drive a short way into Burketown, checking out the old bore on the way into town. We will continue to explore town and the museum afterwards and head around town to see some of the historic sights and set up camp. This afternoon we will be treated to either a river cruise or a salt pan drive (depending on the wet season), finishing with a stunning sunset.

#### Day 15 (BLD, S) Leichardt Lagoon

This morning, we take turns at getting in the air over Australia's largest aggregate salt pans! We then head east and visit Camp 119, the northern-most point of the ill-fated Burke & Wills expedition. We'll do some sightseeing around Normanton and use the shops here. Tonight we camp at a nice quiet camp outside of Normanton.

### Day 16 (BLD) Undara

This morning we cover some distance, heading east across the Savannah Way. We'll pop into a few sites on the way inc. the old Blackbull Railway Station, to discover some of the amazing history of this rail line from "nowhere to nowhere", built in the late 1800s. Later this arvy we will pull into Undara Volcanic National Park. This evening we will head out together and enjoy a final meal as a group!

#### Day 17 (BL, H) Cairns

Our last day has arrived, but not without another incredible experience. Early birds can head up the hill from camp to watch the sunrise over the vast plains of Undara. This walk is an easy 1.5 km return walk. At 8am we explore the majestic Undara Lava Tubes with excellent interpretation from a local Savannah Guide. After the tour we will head back to Cairns, stopping on the way for a guick bakery lunch. Hold back the tears if you can, but there will be tissues on board! Drop offs today can be expected around 5pm.

