



Luxury Travel
since 1927

Outback Wilderness Adventures to a T.

ESSENTIAL TOUR INFORMATION

PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

Your APT Crew

From the moment you join the tour, your friendly crew are on hand to ensure your comfort, take care of all arrangements and answer questions with a smile. Your Driver-Guide is a highly trained industry professional, committed to making your adventure memorable. Your Driver-Guide's informed and entertaining commentary will showcase their passion and knowledge of the area, while their organisational skills, backed by our dedicated support staff, will ensure that your trip is completely hassle-free. To provide support and comfort while you travel to remote locations on selected Outback Wilderness Adventures, you will be accompanied by a Tour Director in addition to your Driver-Guide.

Seat Rotation

To ensure everyone can enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system will be implemented by your Driver-Guide.

Custom-Built 4WD Vehicles

APT's 4WD vehicles are purpose built to cross rugged terrain in comfort, safety and style. Designed especially for the Outback, our dynamic fleet of custom-built Mercedes-Benz and Isuzu 4WD vehicles set a global benchmark. APT's vehicles have an impeccable reliability record and traverse some of the roughest terrain.

In the event of a late wet season, our 4WD vehicles provide greater reliability on roads that may be closed to larger vehicles. All vehicles feature air conditioning, reclining seats, a state-of-the-art PA system and large tinted windows to protect you from the sun while providing unimpeded views of the passing scenery. For your safety and convenience, each vehicle is fitted with a heavy-duty bull-bar and also carries a satellite phone. Our Driver-Guides are highly experienced in driving across the rough terrains of the Outback.

Outback Hotels, Resorts and Stations

Check-In and Checkout

Australian standard hotel check-in time is 3pm and checkout time is 10am. This may vary between hotels.

Special Requirements

If you have special requirements, such as a preference for adjoining or neighbouring rooms, double beds, a ground floor room or a room near the main hotel facilities, please advise your Travel Agent or APT as early as possible prior to commencing your tour so that we can try to fulfil your request.

Facilities In Your Room*

Bedding

Twin-bedded accommodation usually represents two single beds, though some hotels present twin share accommodation as one double bed and one single bed. A double room comprises of one double bed designed for two people to share.

Bathroom and En Suite

APT accommodation usually features private facilities. Your bathroom will have a shower, toilet, hand basin, towels and soap.

Tea and Coffee Making Facilities

Your accommodation provides tea and coffee making facilities in your room.

Mini Bars and Refrigerators

Most hotels feature a small refrigerator in the room and on some occasions a mini bar. Please remember that these items are at an additional cost.

Television and Telephone

Some rooms will have a television and telephone. However, in-room telephones can be at an additional cost and most hotels have public phones available.

Laundry Facilities

There are limited hotels along the trip with coin operated laundry facilities.

*Facility availability can vary depending on the remoteness of location.

Dining Information

The meals provided on tour go above and beyond the standard dining you would expect in Outback Australia. We pay careful attention to the negotiation of our menus, to ensure choice and a healthy variety of quality food that caters to all tastes.

Dietary Requirements

Please ensure you advise your Travel Agent or APT of any dietary requirements, prior to your tour commencing. Every effort will be made to fulfil a dietary request; however, we cannot always guarantee this request will be fulfilled. For strict dietary requirements, please check with your Travel Agent or APT. You may need to carry a small supply of necessary food (that does not require refrigeration).

Alcohol

Consumption of alcohol on board vehicles is strictly prohibited. Most hotels in which you stay have licensed restaurants where you may purchase alcoholic beverages with your meal.

WHAT TO PACK

What you should pack depends on personal preference. Below is a list of items to assist you with your packing. Drip-dry, hand washable clothing is recommended. Most guests dress casually on tour. However, if the group is going into town, you may want to wear something a little more dressy. When packing, take into account the time of year you are travelling and that temperatures will drop at night. Layering is recommended.

- Hiking boots or comfortable, sturdy walking shoes.
- Walking poles to assist with walking over uneven ground (optional).
- Comfortable walking shoes with good grip in water (e.g. reef sandals with back straps).
- Sun hat, sunscreen and sunglasses.
- Small backpack (for day use).
- Water bottle (provided with your Adventure Pack).
- Swimsuit.
- Sarong.
- Towel and torch.
- Insect repellent (also provided on the vehicles).
- T-shirts/shirts.
- Shorts.
- Warm clothing for winter months (e.g. long pants and jumper).
- Waterproof jacket or light raincoat.
- Underwear and socks.
- Warm sleepwear required for winter months (e.g. thermals).
- Toiletries (it may not always be possible to power electric shavers).
- Personal medication (take adequate supplies for entire tour).
- Camera, memory cards and spare batteries (recharging of batteries is not always possible).

Dressing for the Climate

Open-air dining and campfire evenings are an important part of your Outback experience. It can be very cold at night, sometimes dropping to below zero, and during the day the sun can be very hot, so bring clothing to keep you warm and to protect you from the sun, as well as a hat.

Luggage Requirements

Due to the vehicle size and custom-built luggage area, there is limited luggage capacity. Please pack your required items into one bag with the following allowances:

1. Dimensions: 66cm length x 35cm width x 32cm height;
2. Maximum weight: 16kg;
3. Small, soft bag or APT duffel bag (no suitcases).

A small day bag or backpack to be taken on board the vehicle is also required. If you have excess luggage, please arrange for it to be stored or forwarded to your tour's final destination prior to arrival at your departure point.

Air travel within the Outback is in a small aircraft, which places further restrictions on luggage allowances for safety and compliance reasons. If your escorted tour entails air travel, please note you will need to pack down your luggage and personal items to a maximum of 10kg (22lb) per person for the flight. Any extra luggage will be taken on the 4WD vehicle.

Adventure Pack

You will receive a complimentary Adventure Pack, four weeks prior to embarking on an escorted tour of six days or longer.



Uluru, Northern Territory

Mobility and Fitness

On an Outback Wilderness Adventure, a good level of health and fitness is essential to undertake walks in hot conditions, or on uneven terrain, steep steps and slippery surfaces. If you struggle with balance, walking poles are great for stability. Please note: walking frames are not recommended on tour, due to the rugged and uneven terrain we traverse on occasion. A good level of fitness and agility is necessary to enjoy these tours to the fullest. In the lead-up to your trip, we recommend you start walking three times a week (including some steps), building up to an hour at a time. This will ensure you have the stamina and energy to see and appreciate all the sights your tour has to offer. You should ensure your walking shoes fit properly and have been worn in prior to departure.

See Your GP

Your GP or travel clinic is the best source of information about preventative measures. We recommend you consult your GP or local travel clinic for detailed advice to ensure maximum pre-travel preparation. Please take a copy of your travel itinerary with you to assist with the recommendations of appropriate medications. If you have health problems, ask your doctor to prepare your medical history for a doctor, should you need to see one on tour. It should include your name, address, emergency contact, blood type, medical history, current medications and dosages, drug allergies, reasons for prior hospitalisation and a list of vaccinations and dates. A copy of your prescriptions is vital in case of any health problems. Prepare a list of your medications, including the name, dosage, prescribing doctor and phone number. Pack sufficient medication for the duration of your tour. Your medication should be kept close at hand in your purse or carry-on bag. It is always good to carry a list of your medications in case they are lost and remember to leave everything in its original container so it can be easily identified. It is also a good idea to bring a copy of your prescription for glasses or contacts.

Pack a Medical Kit

A small medical kit is recommended for all travellers. Pharmacies in large towns will likely stock most basic medicines and supplies but they may be difficult to access and a script may be required for some medications.

Your medical kit should include:

- A general-purpose antibiotic to cover respiratory, skin and gastrointestinal infections (e.g. azithromycin).
- Your preferred cold and flu medication (e.g. cold and flu tablets, throat lozenges, nasal decongestant).
- Your preferred painkiller (e.g. paracetamol, ibuprofen).
- Medicine for gastrointestinal upsets (e.g. antacids, 'stoppers' for diarrhoea and a laxative for constipation).
- Other supplies including Band-Aids, blister pads, scissors, tweezers, saline nasal spray, and eye drops for dry eyes.

In case of more serious injury or illness, medical care can be obtained in main towns. In the event you leave the tour because of illness, your return trip home will be at your own expense and own arrangements. It is important you purchase travel insurance prior to departing from home.

On Tour

Practicing good hygiene is vitally important in stopping the spread of common viral infections such as colds, flu or gastro, which can spread quickly.

Practice Good Hygiene

- Washing your hands is the most effective way to reduce the risk of contracting and spreading infections.
- Health experts recommend you wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds or longer, before eating, after sneezing or coughing and after touching high contact surfaces (such as door knobs, elevator buttons and railings).
- Please be mindful of your fellow travellers with respect to coughing, sneezing and the disposal of used tissues.

- On tour, APT recommend the use of instant hand sanitiser. For your convenience, there is a bottle readily available on board every vehicle.

Gastro and Traveller's Diarrhoea

Traveller's Diarrhoea is the second most common infectious illness affecting travellers. The illness can be due to a number of different bugs including viruses and bacteria. Viral gastroenteritis is generally spread by person-to-person contact, whereas bacterial gastroenteritis is generally spread from consuming contaminated food or water. Symptoms can include fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain. The incubation for the illness is variable depending on the cause. Symptoms are generally self-limiting and treatment includes rest, rehydration, simple diet, anti-nausea and antidiarrheal medications. Antibiotics are generally reserved for use when symptoms are more severe or protracted (e.g. fever, abdominal pain, bloody diarrhoea or duration of symptoms for more than two days). Strict personal hygiene measures, particularly hand washing, help protect you from getting sick and of course, spreading the infection to others.

Colds and Flu

Viral respiratory infections are the most common infectious illnesses affecting travellers. Colds and flu are primarily spread by people coughing, so please practice hygiene and respiratory courtesy – wash your hands often, cover your coughs and sneezes, and use anti-bacterial wipes/hand sanitiser prior to meals and frequently throughout the day. Influenza can be commonly contracted while travelling. The 'Flu Vaccine' protects against flu viruses expected to be prevalent during the current flu season. You should discuss this with your GP.

Sun Exposure and Dehydration

The weather will be variable on your tour and drinking plenty of water will prevent dehydration. APT's 4WD vehicles carry water on board for your convenience and are easily accessible during vehicle stops. A hat and good sunscreen are important for preventing sunburn, even on overcast days.

APT Health and Safety Protocol

APT has created a Health and Safety, as well as COVID-19 Protocols that all our Driver-Guides and Tour Directors are required to adhere to. You may be requested to assist in reducing the spread of viruses if you are showing symptoms while on tour. If you are showing symptoms of a cold or a virus while on tour, you may be asked to wear a face mask, have meals in your room instead of the dining room, or remain in your room until the symptoms improve. Refer to our website for our most up-to-date protocols.



Flinders Ranges, South Australia

GENERAL TOURING INFORMATION

Communication Services

Our 4WD vehicles are fitted with satellite telephones, however, these are not available for use by passengers due to high operating costs. Messages to our passengers are best conveyed via our office. Mobile phone coverage and internet services are limited in the Outback. Public telephones are free for all calls within Australia. International calls and calls to premium and satellite numbers must be paid for. Guests are encouraged to purchase credit via a Telstra phone card if intending to call any of the applicable numbers.

Departure and Return Points and Times

Please check your travel documents for further details of pickup and departure points and times.

Electricity

Power point availability at each accommodation may be limited and only some tented cabins have power points. Power points are not always located next to the bed

Itinerary

Although every effort is made to follow the itinerary, there may be times when it will have to be varied due to weather or other conditions prevailing at the time.

Internet

Internet is available in some hotels. However, please note that areas within Outback Australia may have little to no internet coverage.

Late Wet Season

In the unlikely event of a late wet season, touring itineraries will be subject to change due to road closures, weather conditions and circumstances beyond our control.

Personal Expenses

We recommend you bring money or a credit card for incidentals such as refreshments, souvenirs, meals (when not included) and alcohol. You may also wish to budget for optional scenic flights that are available at, but not limited to, Kati Thanda–Lake Eyre and Wilpena Pound (all major credit cards are accepted).

Photography

The unique outback scenery is a photographer's delight. So bring your camera, batteries and spare memory cards. It may not always be possible to charge camera batteries at every accommodation so extra batteries are recommended.

Pre-Tour and Post-Tour Connections

Some of our guests may choose to make their own air or extra accommodation reservations. In this case, it's your responsibility to confirm your own arrangements and we suggest that you reconfirm your bookings prior to starting the tour. Please note that if the return of your tour is delayed for any reason, APT does not accept

responsibility for any additional charges that may be imposed by the operator of your ongoing travel arrangements.

Sleep Apnoea Machines

We travel through remote areas and cannot always provide facilities to charge or plug in electrical devices. The majority of accommodation options we use can accommodate sleep apnoea machines (and other electrical medical devices); however, we recommend you bring a second battery source as we cannot guarantee an uninterrupted power supply. Power points may not always be located next to the bed and your own extension cord is recommended.

Smoking

Due to Australian government regulations, smoking isn't permitted on aircrafts or tourist vehicles. Frequent stops are made during the day to provide comfort stops or the opportunity to smoke. If you desire a smoking or non-smoking room and haven't advised us, please contact us as soon as possible. Requests are not guaranteed.

Taxis

Meter-operated taxis are available in all major cities and towns. You will find ranks at transport terminals, major hotels and shopping centres or you can hail them in the street. There is a minimum flagfall charge and then a charge for the distance travelled. Most hotels provide a free, direct line phone to taxi services.

Tipping

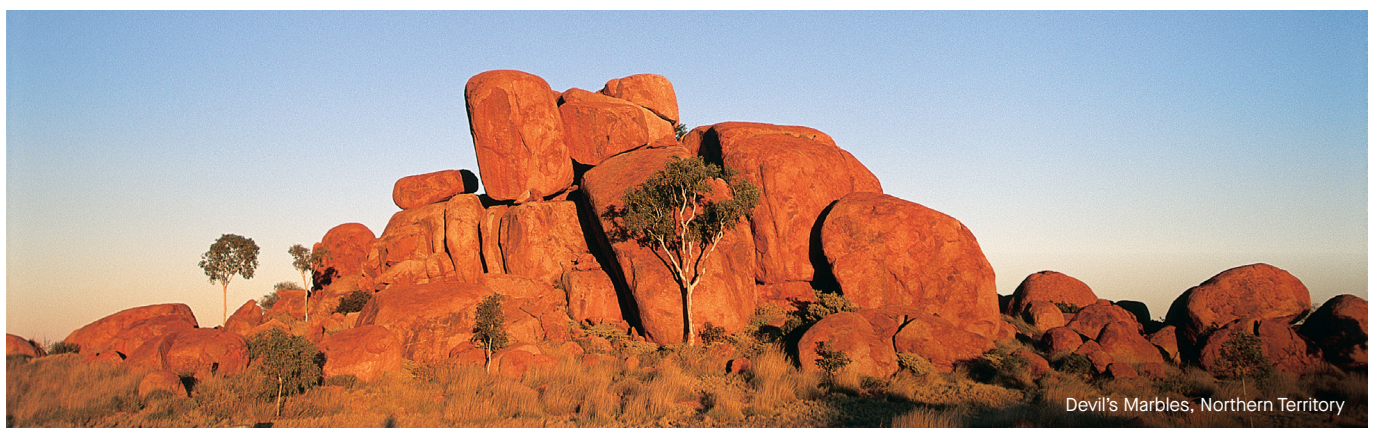
Tipping is not customary in Australia, however, please feel to tip should you wish.

Tour Feedback

As part of our commitment to providing quality touring experiences, we welcome and encourage your feedback. Your Driver-Guide or Tour Director will share with you a feedback form. Please take the time to answer the questions and make relevant comments. All feedback is read and a summary of each tour is given to all members of APT management.

Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out comprehensive travel insurance, which will cover any unforeseen circumstances that may arise on tour or before leaving home (this includes cancellation fees, medical and curtailment expenses, cover for remote evacuation, and loss of luggage). Confirm that your insurance covers you for the whole time you'll be away and check what circumstances and activities are not included in your policy. Ensure all pre-existing medical issues are declared to the insurer so that non-covered conditions are ascertained in advance. Have the details recorded and accessible at all times during travel. We recommend your travel insurance includes coverage of events such as itinerary disruption as we will not be liable for any direct or indirect costs that you incur as a result of such an event or other factors beyond our control.



Devil's Marbles, Northern Territory

DISCOVERING THE OUTBACK

The Australian Outback offers a world of adventures waiting to be experienced. Choose from breathtaking natural beauty, incredible wildlife, ancient cultures and significant history. Travel to some of the most far-flung regions and pristine landscapes this vast and diverse continent has to offer.

Savannah Way – Northern Territory, Queensland, and Western Australia

This 3,700-kilometre route links tropical Cairns with the historic pearling town of Broome via 15 national parks and five World Heritage-listed areas. Discover the Old Telegraph Track in Far North Queensland, home to The Telegraph which operated from 1885 to 1962, and the Overland Telegraph Line that was once the only means of modern communication across Cape York Peninsula. The track follows the telegraph line along the peninsula.

Mereenie Loop – Northern Territory

The Mereenie Loop Road is an unsealed road of 337 kilometres that provides an alternative scenic route from Alice Springs to Uluru. Offering a true route through the ancient heart of the Australian Outback, prepare to pass some of the Northern Territory's most spectacular natural attractions and sacred Indigenous sites.

Oodnadatta Track – South Australia

This 620-kilometre track follows a traditional Indigenous trading route between Coober Pedy and Marree, providing stunning desert scenery including Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre National Park.

Birdsville Track – South Australia and Queensland

This 517-kilometre track runs from Marree, across the Tirari Desert and Sturt Stony Desert, and ending in Birdsville. It traverses some of the driest parts of the country.

The Outback Climate

The Outback covers a broad spectrum of regions from arid deserts in South Australia to the peninsula of Cape York in tropical Far North Queensland, and the West Coast of Australia. In South Australia, expect hot summers and cool winters. In the Red Centre, a semi-arid climate is expected with hot summers (October to March) and cool winters (June to August). Meanwhile, the eastern region of Australia from Cairns to Cape York, has a dry season from May to October and a heavy monsoon period between November and April. The West Coast of Australia varies considerably.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Perth												
Max (°C)	31	32	30	26	22	19	18	19	20	23	27	29
Min (°C)	18	18	17	14	11	9	8	8	10	11	14	16
Rainfall (mm)	15	8	21	36	91	128	147	123	90	40	24	10
Alice Springs												
Max (°C)	37	36	33	29	24	20	20	23	28	31	34	36
Min (°C)	22	21	18	13	8	5	4	6	11	15	18	21
Rainfall (mm)	40	40	35	20	18	14	17	5	7	21	33	41
Adelaide												
Max (°C)	28	28	26	22	19	16	15	16	18	21	24	26
Min (°C)	16	16	14	12	10	8	7	8	9	11	13	15
Rainfall (mm)	17	19	22	35	54	57	60	51	45	37	25	24
Mount Isa												
Max (°C)	36	35	34	32	28	25	25	27	31	35	36	37
Min (°C)	24	23	22	19	14	10	9	10	14	19	21	23
Rainfall (mm)	114	103	64	15	13	6	6	4	7	18	39	73
Cairns												
Max (°C)	32	31	31	29	28	26	26	27	28	30	31	31
Min (°C)	24	24	23	22	20	18	17	17	19	21	22	23
Rainfall (mm)	394	450	424	197	91	46	29	27	33	46	94	177
Weipa												
Max (°C)	32	31	32	32	32	31	31	32	34	36	36	34
Min (°C)	24	24	24	23	21	20	19	19	20	22	24	24
Rainfall (mm)	485	545	409	99	18	4	2	6	1	23	110	274

The above statistics are a guide only – weather can vary.

APT TRAVEL CENTRES

AUSTRALIA

Building 4, Level 1, 15 Cochranes Road, Moorabbin, VIC 3189

P: 1300 278 278 (within Australia)

W: aptouring.com

NEW ZEALAND

Level 1, 20 Augustus Terrace, Parnell, Auckland 1052

P: 0800 278 687 (within New Zealand)

W: aptouring.com

UNITED KINGDOM

3rd Floor, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AU

P: 0800 012 6686 (within the UK)

W: aptouring.com

NORTH AMERICA

Suite 530, World Trade Centre, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3E1

P: 1800 290 8687 (within North America)

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