Red Centre Light Trail
Six-day itinerary

The Red Centre Light Trail is a unique experience that captivates the visual senses. From a bird’s-eye view of extraordinary landscapes to contemporary art to sunrise and sunset light extravaganzas, this six-day journey is a sensual feast designed to captivate your imagination.

Take in the sights of an age-old culture by exploring the majesty of the West MacDonnell Ranges and the awe-inspiring Kings Canyon. Witness a dramatic new light and sound installation at Kings Canyon Resort by acclaimed light maestro Bruce Munro. And be a part of ancient dreamtime stories brought to life with modern technology in a breathtaking sunset and sunrise setting at Uluru.

**DAY 1**

Drift silently and effortlessly over the rugged West MacDonnell Ranges in a hot air balloon at sunrise. See the ranges up close and personal while taking in the majestic landscapes and some of the most incredible natural formations imaginable. Up your selfie cred and get some amazing photos for your socials. Select from half-hour or one-hour balloon flights with Outback Ballooning; get your bearings of Alice Springs from the air and get your bubbly on after you touch back down.

Then, grab a Todd or Hartley Street coffee and wander and wonder as you get artsy around Alice Springs. Connect with ancient cultures through contemporary Aboriginal art and storytelling from one of the oldest living traditions in the world. Discover a diversity of the galleries and art centres where acclaimed Aboriginal artists and local painters use art to share dreamtime stories passed down through generations.

In the evening, learn how to navigate using the stars at the Earth Sanctuary astro tour. Listen to ancient Aboriginal stories of creation interwoven with modern science, providing you with a holistic view of the star-filled sky above in all its wonder.

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**Accommodation in Alice Springs & surrounds**

Alice Springs has everything from budget rooms and campgrounds to glamping and luxury hotels. So whether you’re looking for a family-friendly haven or quiet and contemplative boutique stays; smack bang in the heart of town or farther afield – there are plenty of accommodation options.

**Accommodation in Uluru & surrounds**

Uluru caters for all accommodation types, from budget rooms to luxury hotels and just about everything in between. All are within the Aboriginal-owned Ayers Rock Resort. A night or two, or even a week or longer, it’s the perfect opportunity to connect with the people, culture and heritage.
DAY 2
It’ll pay to hit the road early for your sojourn to Tjoritja West MacDonnell National Park. Coffee and a pastry from The Bakery will fuel you for the 161km stretch west from Alice Springs. While the scenery on the way is stunning, it pales in comparison to any of the park’s magnificent waterholes. During the summer months, remember to pack swimmers for Ellery Creek Big Hole, Ormiston Gorge, Redbank Gorge and Glen Helen Gorge which are filled with cold, clear, and restorative desert water you can swim in year long.
Once refreshed, tackle the numerous marked walking tracks ranging from the leisurely to adventurous and discover an ancient landscape sculpted over time.

DAY 3
Whether camping, glamping or booking a room at Discovery Park’s Kings Canyon Resort, be sure to take in the new Light Towers installation by acclaimed light guru Bruce Munro. Light Towers is an immersive sound and light installation within the resort consisting of 69 two-metre towers that change colour in response to music emanating from within. The visually stunning display will take visitors on a captivating and immersive aural and visual journey that showcases thought-provoking art and culture.

DAY 4
Experience a sunrise hike like no other at Kings Canyon, where towering red rock cliffs and a forest of palms await. This majestic destination boasts towering sandstone walls 300 metres high, crevices filled with lush palms, and breathtaking views stretching across the vast desert landscape.
Lace up your walking boots and explore the iconic and sometimes challenging Kings Canyon Rim walk. The walk takes around 3-4 hours and is a 6km circuit that takes you down into the Garden of Eden, a stunning rock hole surrounded by rare plants, before climbing to 360° panoramic views over the red sand dunes.
DAY 5

Step into a world of wonder and magic at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park, where you’ll be treated to an unforgettable evening of Aboriginal culture and storytelling. New in 2023, it starts with delicious cocktails infused with native ingredients. Then, stunning views of Uluru and Kata Tjuta complement a gourmet dinner hamper featuring a fusion of native ingredients and modern culinary techniques.

As the sun sets, be mesmerised by Wintjiri Wiru, the Mala story from the Anangu people. Using cutting-edge technology, this ancient tale will be brought to life with choreographed drones, lasers, music, and projections in the night sky to create a breathtaking and modern artistic expression of an age-old Anangu story told the local Pitjantjatjara language.

DAY 6

Before the sun peeks over the horizon, the magnificent Field of Light Uluru springs to life, casting a magical glow over the vast desert. This is a must-see attraction that has garnered critical acclaim and has now been extended indefinitely. Artist Bruce Munro’s fascination with light has created magical pre-dawn glow over the vast desert with a jaw-dropping 50,000 shimmering spheres of colour.

Spread over an area larger than seven football fields, the exhibition is a veritable wonderland of colours, with stems of light swaying in unison to create a hypnotic display. The desert spectrum of ochre, deep violet, blue, and gentle white is a spectacle everyone should experience — a perfect way to end your six-day Red Centre Way adventure.

Planning to visit in April? Time your trip with Parrtjima Festival or check out the full list of Red Centre festivals & events.

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