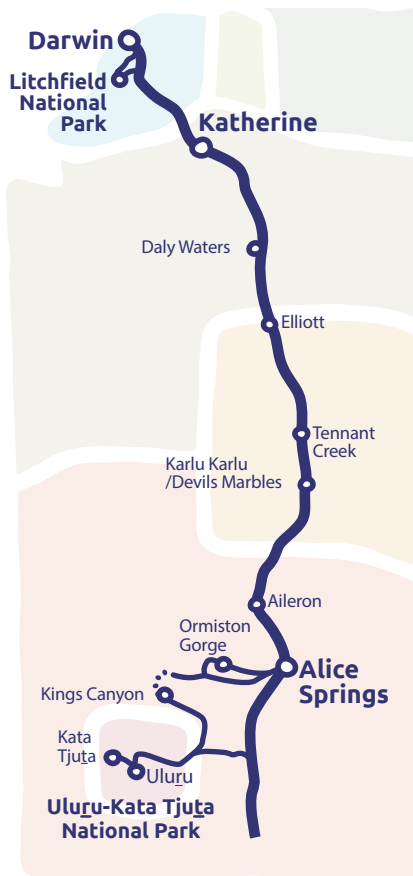




# Alice Springs to Darwin Explorers Way



One of the great Australian road trips is without a doubt from Adelaide to Darwin, along the Explorers Way. Passing some of Australia's favourite natural icons, including Uluru and Kata Tjuta, Watarrka National Park/Kings Canyon, MacDonnell Ranges, Karlu Karlu/Devils Marbles, Nitmiluk National Park and Litchfield National Park. The journey follows the famous explorer, John McDouall Stuart, who was the first European to successfully cross Australia south to north and establish a route to the coastal region of the Northern Territory.

**K** 14-17 DAYS  
approx 2230 km

Uluru-Kata Tjuta NP  
Tennant Creek region  
Katherine region

Icons: Car, Road, Calendar, Kangaroo, Person, Medal

◆ \* Refer to page 2 for details



Uluru Camel Tour,  
Uluru-Kata Tjuṯa National Park.



Karrke Aboriginal Cultural  
Experience & Tours.



Uluru Sunset viewing  
Uluru-Kata Tjuṯa National Park.

## DAY ONE TO FIVE

### Travelling from South Australia

Spend the first five days travelling through outback South Australia, stopping in at some of the small coastal towns. Take in the southern and central Flinders Ranges and make sure you stay overnight at Coober Pedy.

## DAY SIX AND SEVEN

### Uluru-Kata Tjuṯa National Park

Once you drive across the Northern Territory border, make a beeline for Australia's ultimate icons. Discover the beauty of **Uluru** and **Kata Tjuṯa** – this desert region is blessed with natural wonders, world-class dining experiences and ancient Aboriginal culture.

There's an abundance of things to see and do within the Park. Stop in at the Cultural Centre to learn about the significance of the area to the local Anangu people – the traditional custodians of Uluru and Kata Tjuṯa.

Sunrise and sunset are the best times to admire the incredible scenes of the outback. Remember to take some chairs and 'sunset refreshments' so you can really make the most of this special moment on your Explorers Way journey.

Take a walk or ride around Uluru, follow the Walpa Gorge Walk (2.6km return) to admire the shapes of the domes of Kata Tjuṯa, and keep your eyes peeled for wildlife in the desert.

#### Accommodation

**Ayers Rock Resort** offers a range of accommodation options from camping to four-star apartments or stay in luxury at **Longitude 131°**

## DAY EIGHT

### Uluru to Kings Canyon

Leave Uluru-Kata Tjuṯa National Park and drive 300km back along the Lasseter Highway and Luritja Highway to reach Watarrka National Park/Kings Canyon. This majestic destination features 100 metre-high sandstone walls, walking trails and views that will leave you speechless.

## DAY NINE

### Kings Canyon/Watarrka National Park

For an unforgettable view of Kings Canyon, rise before dawn and follow the 6km trail along the Kings Canyon Rim Walk. There are other smaller walks on offer so make the most of your time here and explore as much as possible.

#### Food and drink

**Aninti Café** at the Uluru-Kata Tjuṯa Cultural Centre, Yulara town square offers a café, Asian restaurant and a supermarket to stock up on all your needs, **Curtin Springs Station, Kings Canyon Resort** and **Kings Creek Station, Under a Desert Moon**

#### Accommodation

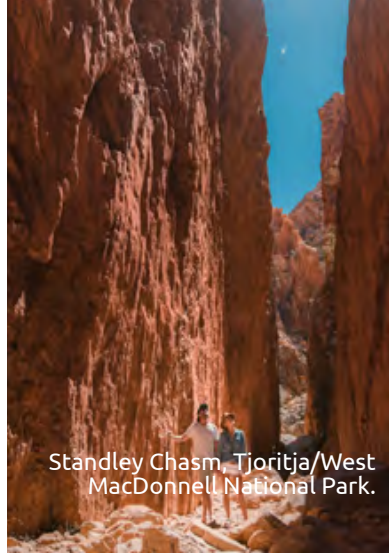
**Ayers Rock Resort, Kings Canyon Resort, Kings Creek Station**

#### Tours and activities

**Free ranger-guided activities, Uluru Camel Tours, Maruku Arts, Curtin Springs walks, Kings Canyon scenic helicopter tours, Karrke Aboriginal Cultural Experience & Tours**



Kings Canyon, Watarrka National Park.



Standley Chasm, Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park.



Ellery Creek Big Hole, Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park.



Karlu Karlu/Devils Marbles, Tennant Creek.

## DAY TEN

### Kings Canyon to Alice Springs

Once you get back on the road, head to the NT's second largest town, Alice Springs. If travelling by four-wheel drive, take the Mereenie Loop, or travel along the sealed Luritja and Lasseter Highways, before turning north onto the Stuart Highway towards Alice Springs.

## DAY ELEVEN

### West MacDonnell Ranges

The West MacDonnell Ranges are an easy day trip from Alice Springs along a sealed road. There are many stops along the way to enjoy. Walk along the trail at Simpsons Gap or stand between the sheer walls of Standley Chasm. To cool off why not enjoy a swim at Ellery Creek Big Hole, Ormiston Gorge or Redbank Gorge.

## DAY TWELVE

### Alice Springs to Tennant Creek

On your journey from Alice Springs to Tennant Creek, take the time to stop at

**Karlu Karlu/Devils Marbles**, a sacred site to the Warumungu people. These massive ancient granite boulders are strewn across a wide shallow valley, and continue to crack and change.

## DAY THIRTEEN

### Tennant Creek to Daly Waters

As you travel further north, you will notice how the environment around you is changing. The **Daly Waters Historic Pub** is a popular place to stay overnight that offers backpacker, hotel or cabin rooms. The pub and grounds are crammed with memorabilia revealing the pub's colourful history and those who have passed through its doors. Set up camp for the night and make the most of this notoriously characteristic pub.

**Food and drink**  
**Sporties Steak and Grill, Mataranka Homestead, Daly Waters Historic Pub**

**Accommodation:**  
**Tennant Creek Caravan Park, Eldorado Motor Inn, Katherine Holiday Park, Manbullo Homestead Caravan Park, Shady Lane Tourist Park**

**Tours and activities**  
**Nyinkka Nyunyu Art and Culture Centre, Daly Waters Historic Pub, Tennant**

**Creek Telegraph Station, Tingkarli/Lake Mary Ann, Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, canoeing in Nitmiluk Gorge, Nitmiluk Gorge scenic flight**

## DAY FOURTEEN

### Daly Waters to Katherine

As you make your way towards Katherine, take a break from driving and enjoy a rejuvenating swim in the **Mataranka Thermal Pool**. Fed by spring water in the Daly and Georgina basins, it is surrounded by a palm forest and its waters are a constant 34 degrees celsius.

Katherine is the NT's fourth largest town, and a perfect base to check out the nearby gorge country. Why not explore the vast Nitmiluk National Park's thirteen gorges via a helicopter joy flight, canoe or join a guided boat cruise. For more information about what to do around this area see the **Kakadu and Katherine Nature's Way** itinerary on page 28.

## DAY FIFTEEN

### Katherine and surrounds

Spend the day in Katherine and take in the beautiful surroundings of Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge with plenty of

