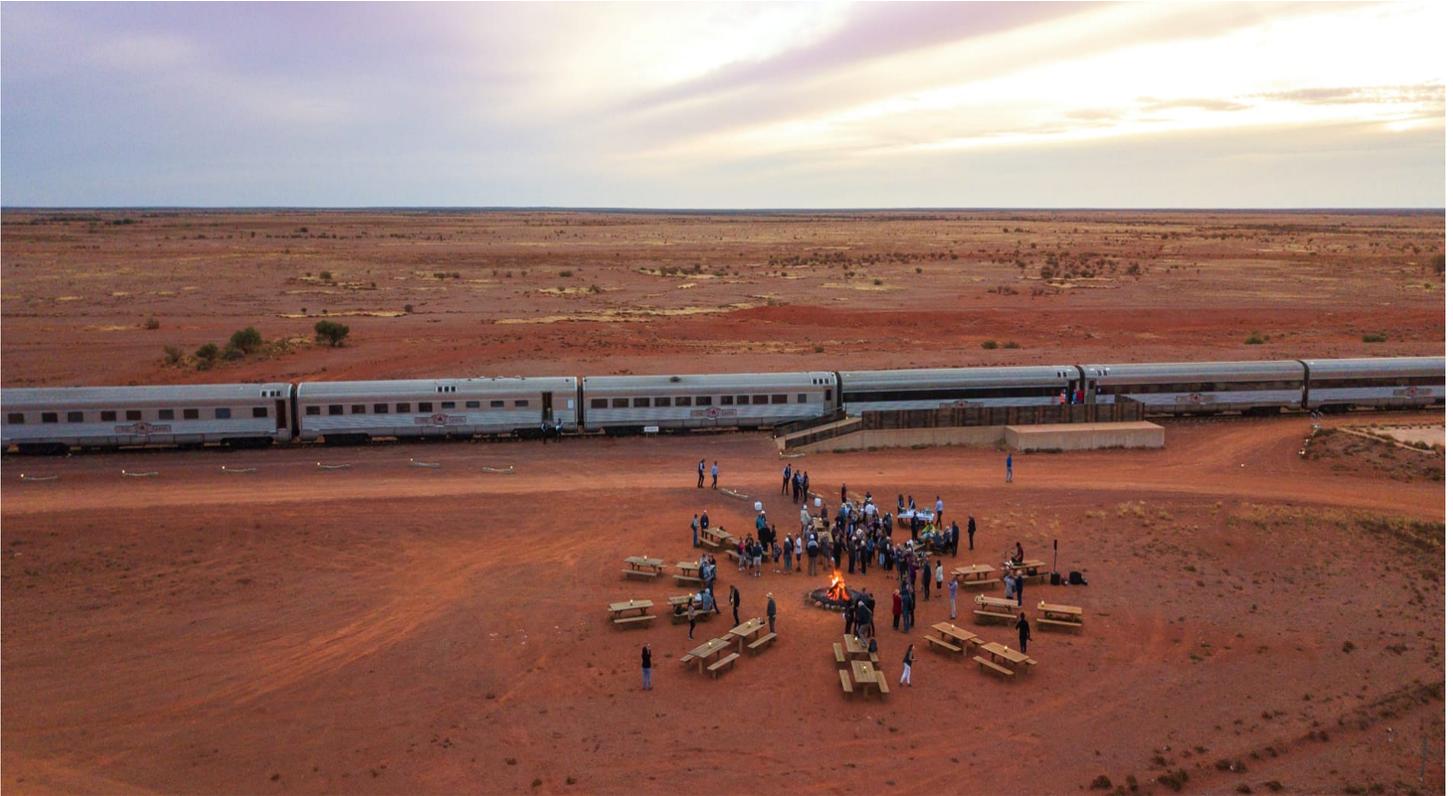


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TAILOR MADE RAIL

The Ghan: Red Centre Explorer

From £3,159 per person // 15 days



Take an exciting journey aboard the Ghan through Australia's heartland, starting in Adelaide and finishing in Darwin with unforgettable stays at Alice Springs, Uluru, Kings Canyon and Kakadu National Park.

The Essentials

- Travel from south to north across Australia aboard The Ghan
- Visit the amazing World Heritage Listed Ulu?u and Kata Tju?a National Park
- Appreciate the soaring sandstone walls of Kings Canyon
- Experience stunning Kakadu National Park and cruise Yellow Water Billabong
- Spend time in Darwin and take a sunset dinner cruise in the harbour
- TOURS DEPART ON SATURDAYS

What's included

- 12 nights' hotel accommodation with breakfast
- 2 nights aboard The Ghan in Gold Service, including all meals, beverages and off train experiences
- Guided touring in Ulu?u, Kata Tju?a, Kings Canyon and Kakadu National Park
- Transfer from Darwin station to hotel
- Sunset dinner cruise in Darwin

- Suggested Itinerary -



Day 1 - Adelaide

Arrive in Adelaide and check in at the Hilton Adelaide (or similar) for an overnight stay. Explore Australia's food and wine capital at your leisure today. You can combine this journey with either of the other two scenic rail routes – the Great Southern and the Indian Pacific, both of which stop in Adelaide. It's also possible to travel on public trains to Melbourne or take a tour of Kangaroo Island. Let us know your plans and we can help put together your perfect Australian itinerary.



Day 2 - Depart Adelaide Aboard The Ghan

You have another free morning in Adelaide before heading to the station for your departure aboard The Ghan. Freshen up in your private compartment before lunch is served in the restaurant cars as the train heads towards the Flinders Ranges. It's time to settle into life onboard this afternoon as you head further into the Outback in air-conditioned comfort. Dinner this evening may feature regionally inspired cuisine such as barramundi or crocodile, accompanied Australian wines and beers.



Day 3 - Arrive Alice Springs

Enjoy breakfast on the train accompanied by a spectacular sunrise over Marla as you continue into the heart of the Australian outback this morning. After lunch onboard, you'll arrive into Alice Springs and disembark and check in at the Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters (or similar) for an overnight stay.



Day 4 - Alice Springs

Today is at your own leisure to explore this remote town in Australia's Northern Territory. Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before heading out to explore. There are a number of interesting small museums you can visit to find out more about the European and Aboriginal history of the area, Aboriginal culture and local wildlife. Choose from one of the many restaurants available for dinner this evening.



Day 5 - Alice Springs To Uluru

Leave Alice Springs today for the awe-inspiring Uluru as you travel through rugged desert landscapes, passing the stunning MacDonnell Ranges. During the journey, you'll stop at a camel farm and see magnificent Attila (Mount Connor). Check in at the Voyages Sails in the Deserts Hotel (or similar) for a 2 night stay before heading out for a sunset experience at Kata Tjuta this evening.



Day 6 - Uluru And Kata Tjuta

After an early breakfast this morning, you'll experience the majestic grandeur of Uluru from the sunrise viewing platform before a short journey to Kata Tjuta and its 36 mystical domes in the heart of the desert. This afternoon, you'll travel around the base of Uluru to visit Kuniya Walk and the beautiful Mutitjulu Waterhole as well as the Uluru – Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre. In the evening, watch the light fade over Uluru as you enjoy an Aussie barbecue.



Day 7 - Uluru To Kings Canyon

Relax this morning at your hotel, perhaps taking advantage of the outdoor swimming pool and spa facilities on offer. Sails in the Desert's Mulgara Gallery also features some stunning Indigenous art. Later in the day, you'll take a drive through the desert to Kings Canyon where you'll check in for an overnight stay at the Kings Canyon Resort (or similar).



Day 8 - Kings Canyon To Alice Springs

This morning, you'll join a guided climb up to the rim of Kings Canyon for sweeping views over Watarrka National Park. This beautiful National Park covers 71,000 hectares (274 square miles) and has been home to the Luritja Aboriginal people for more than 20,000 years. If you have time, you can walk along the rim and descend into the lush Garden of Eden. Return to Alice Springs later this afternoon, with a stop en route at Kings Creek Station, a working cattle and camel farm. On arrival in Alice Springs, check back in at the Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters (or similar) for 2 nights.



Day 9 - Alice Springs

Today is free to discover more of Alice Springs at your leisure. For a truly unforgettable experience, why not book a hot air balloon flight to appreciate the scale and beauty of the area? We can add this to your holiday package from £150 per person.



Day 10 - Depart Alice Springs Aboard The Ghan

It's time to leave Alice Springs today and reboard The Ghan for your onward journey north to Darwin. Settle back in to your cabin and enjoy the passing scenery as you travel on through the Northern Territory. Lunch and dinner are served in the Queen Adelaide Restaurant and between meals, you can socialise with your fellow passengers in the comfort of the Outback Explorer Lounge.



Day 11 - Darwin Via Katherine

The landscapes continue to change this morning as The Ghan continues towards Katherine. Known as 'the place where the outback meets the tropics', with abundant greenery in stark contrast to the red centre of the territory. Take a cruise down the serene Nitmiluk Gorge, spotting the ancient rock art of the Jawoyn people along the way. A few hours later, The Ghan will pull in to Darwin station where you'll disembark and transfer to your accommodation, the Rydges Darwin Central Hotel (or similar) for a 2-night stay.



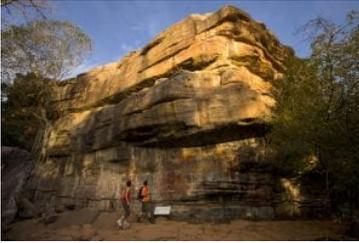
Day 12 - Darwin

Spend a full day exploring Darwin at your own pace. The capital of the Northern Territory, Darwin is actually closer to Bali than to Sydney and you can feel this sense of separation in the unique atmosphere of this cosmopolitan city. There are plenty of museums to discover including the Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, featuring a great Aboriginal art collection and an exhibition dedicated to Cyclone Tracy which hit Darwin in December 1974. For something completely different, why not go to Crocosaurus Cove and get up-close and personal with six of the largest crocodiles in captivity? This evening, take a two-and-a-half hour dinner cruise on the Charles Darwin catamaran, where you can enjoy a delicious local buffet and watch one of Darwin's world-famous sunsets.



Day 13 - Darwin To Kakadu National Park

After breakfast this morning, it's time to hit the road – the Arnhem Highway to be precise, and make your way into Kakadu National Park, the largest National Park in Australia with terrain encompassing wetlands, rivers and sandstone escarpments. Visit Warradjan Cultural Centre, take a cruise on Yellow Water Billabong and stop at Nourlangie where you will take a guided tour of the fabulous ancient rock art galleries. Your accommodation tonight as at the Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel (or similar), where you'll have an overnight stay.



Day 14 - Kakadu National Park To Darwin

Today is action-packed as you explore the World Heritage listed area of Ubirr, climbing up through ancient rock art galleries to a lookout with sweeping views over the surrounding wetlands. You'll also join a Gulyambi Cultural Cruise on Kakadu's scenically spectacular East Alligator River, during which you'll have the privilege (with permission of the traditional owners) of going ashore in Arnhem Land. To finish the day, you'll visit Bowali Visitor Centre, offering information on Kakadu National Park, it's wildlife, history and cultural significance for the indigenous people. Back in Darwin, check in for a final night at the Rydges Darwin Central Hotel (or similar)



Day 15 - Depart Darwin

Leave Darwin today for your onward journey. We can provide flights back to the UK or a stop off en route in locations such as Los Angeles or Singapore.

Pricing

From £3,159 per person

Low Season (Feb – April and Sept – Nov 2020) from £3,159 per person

High Season (2 May – 31 August 2020) from £3,379 per person

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room and a Gold Service twin-share cabin in aboard The Ghan. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy.