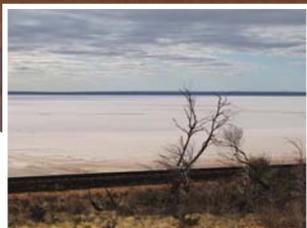


# Lake Eyre & East McDonnells



Travelling north via the Flinders Ranges we head for the vast expanse of Lake Eyre, Australia's largest lake. On our way to Oodnadatta, we track the route of the old Ghan past ancient mound springs which are an oasis for wildlife. We pass Mount Dare and Old Andado Station on the edge of the Simpson Desert, to visit a rare stand of Acacia Peuce.

Further north is Mt Chambers, seen by explorer John McDouall Stuart in 1860 on his first attempt at crossing the continent. The East McDonnell Ranges are a hidden gem in central Australia, studded with sheer quartzite cliffs and gum-lined waterholes.

Exploring this area on foot is a great way to absorb its natural beauty.

## **LAKE EYRE & EAST McDONNELL RANGES: 12 Day Itinerary (Adelaide > Alice Springs)**

- Day 1 Depart Adelaide around 7am we head North via Quorn, along the western side of the Flinders Ranges to our nights camp at the old ghost town of Farina. bush camp
- Day 2 After exploring the Farina area we continue north to Marree head up the Oodnadatta track visiting Lake Eyre before camping at Coward Springs. camping ground
- Day 3. A day birding and relaxing at Coward springs with a visit to some Ancient Mound Springs. camping ground
- Day 4. Another day along the track via William Creek before spending the night at Peake. We explore the Peake Historic Site in the afternoon. bush camp
- Day 5 Into Oodnadatta for supplies then continuing on into Witjira National Park on the edge of the Simpson Desert spending a night at Mt Dare. camping ground
- Day 6 We travel to on to Old Andado homestead and visit the Mac Clark Conservation Reserve before bush camping along the track. bush camp
- Day 7 Travelling through New Crown and Finke we drive along the Old Ghan railway track heading for Chambers Pillar Historic Reserve.
- Day 8 After a morning exploring the area we head for the East MacDonnell Ranges and Trepkina Gorge which is notable for its sheer quartzite cliffs, red river gums and sandy creek bed. 2 nights camp. camping ground
- Day 9 A day walk from John Hayes rockhole to Trepkina Gorge including the Chain of Ponds walk. (12km/6.5 hours)
- Day 10 We travel further east and explore the Arltunga Historic area then into Ruby Gap Nature Park for a 2 night camp. bush camp
- Day 11 Walking and exploring Glen Annie Gorge.
- Day 12 We travel back into Alice Springs arriving about lunchtime.

*NB: Please book onward flights for the next day as road conditions on the tour could seriously affect our time of arrival in Alice Springs.*