



• ITINERARY •

6/6/04: Depart U.S. via QUANTAS (*note that westbound one day is lost due to Date Line.*)

Day 1 (6/8): Arrive DARWIN; flights arrive late in evening; **overnight in hotel** (accommodations included)

Day 2 (6/9): Depart Darwin; Travel to Katherine via Litchfield National Park

Pick-up at hotel early in a comfortable, well appointed vehicle. We drive into the spectacular **LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK**, just 1.5 hours by road from Darwin an Australian natural heritage site. Litchfield's diverse natural attractions include major waterfalls flowing year round which plummet into large, clear pools - perfect for swimming. Evening arrival in **KATHERINE, NORTHERN TERRITORY** (320 km south of Darwin). Overnight at local hotel (accommodations and meals included).

Day 3 (6/10) to Day 9 (6/16): ON RIVER

The majority of our canoe /kayak safari takes place on the **KATHERINE/FLORA/DALY RIVER SYSTEM**, starting some 40 kilometres downstream from **NITMILUK NATIONAL PARK (KATHERINE GORGE)**. Quite remote, it represents a real opportunity for a true "Outback" wilderness.

The region we paddle through is in the heart of an expansive **1.9 million square kilometre tropical savannah** harbouring over 50% of Australia's wildlife. The rivers flow year-round, including during the 7 months of rainless 'dry season' when they become the only water and life source for all manner of wildlife. The riverine landscape is quite diverse, with many small, gentle rapids and rock bars being encountered. At other places, the river braids into channels as we float through shady paperbark forests and pandanus thickets. We stop at the magnificent **FLORA RIVER** entering the flow over jewelled, calcium karst formation cascades, and later the **FERGUSON RIVER JUNCTION** which provides clear, shallow sandfiltered stretches of sweetwater. The local riparian flora and fauna is prolific and the scenery is diverse and beautiful with some of the most serene and pristine campsites you will ever encounter.

Day 9 (6/16) Evening: Return to Katherine; overnight in hotel; (accommodations & meals included)

(cont.)

Day 10 (6/17) Depart Katherine; Travel to Darwin via Nitmiluk National Park and Edith Falls

Your last morning in Katherine will be spent as a guest of the **Jawoyn aboriginal people** at 'NITMILUK (KATHERINE) GORGE'. You embark on inspiring 2 hour cruise of the Gorge - 1.6 billion years old cut and formed by the winding path of the Katherine River and faults fissured during ancient geomorphological events. Aboriginal guides will interpret aboriginal rock art and sacred areas while you view the ancient kumbolgie formations. Before completing drive to Darwin stop for a final tropical swim at the clear plunge pools at scenic **LELYN (EDITH) FALLS**.

Arrive Darwin early evening; overnight in central hotel (accommodation, breakfast and lunch included)

Day 11 (6/18): Depart for U.S. (Transfer to airport included)

AIRLINE RESERVATIONS:

We can assist you finding with the most economical airfares available between your departure city and Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia. Qantas is Australia's national airline.

INCLUDED/NOT INCLUDED::

Virtually all expenses are included from trip commencement in Darwin until return on last day with the following exceptions: Scheduled airfare from your departure city to Darwin. First/last nights' evening meals in Darwin, drinks at dinners, personal expenses and purchases; liquor; gratuities

BALANCE OF PAYMENT:

Trip balances are due in our Maine office **30 days prior to trip departure date**. We prefer checks or wire transfer for payment of balances, but will also accept credit cards (Visa/MC/AMEX)

FORMS & INSURANCE:

Unless already submitted, a trip form is enclosed. *KINDLY FILL OUT ALL THE FORMS PROVIDED AND RETURN THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE*. This will enable our guide to prepare for your trip properly.

Also enclosed is an **optional** travel insurance application - should you desire trip and/or personal insurance protection for this excursion.

PACKING CONSIDERATIONS:

The crisp, clean air, warm dry days, (70's, 80's F.). low humidity and cool nights (high 40's F.) of northern Australia's winter (Dry Season) are perfect for outdoor adventures and touring. A **packing list** will be forwarded with your reservation confirmation. Individual river bags, tents, PFD's etc. are all provided, although participants are welcome to bring their own, if suitable.

FOOD PREFERENCES & ALLERGIES:

Most food concerns can be accommodated given notice (*hence our request for timely return of the trip forms.*)

VISAS & VACCINATIONS:

ETA's for travel up to three months (sort of like a "Visa Light)" are required and may be obtained electronically, (via the Internet) with valid passport and credit card. No vaccinations are necessary.

\$2250 p.p. (from Darwin)

- Incl. 4 nights hotel accom.
- Single supplement:\$350
- \$600 Deposit required



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