

NORTHERN TERRITORY – LARAPINTA TRAIL

7-days / 6-nights guided walking with comfortable camping/hotel based accommodation



Arguably one of the best desert trails in the world, the Larapinta Trail offers a unique walking setting through one of the most impressive outback destinations in Australia. Experience the rugged beauty of the famous West MacDonnell ranges, vast desert vistas, stunning gorges and cool waterholes framed by weeping ghost gums. Gain a deep understanding of the ancient Aboriginal culture (the traditional owners of the land) and walk amongst the abundant bird life to spot species such as the Zebra Finch, Southern Boobook and Whistling Kite.

This Larapinta walking holiday takes you to some of the highlights of the 223km Larapinta trail with knowledgeable, experienced guides showing you the very best of the outback. Explore the gorges of this area including Ormiston Gorge and Serpentine Gorge and visit Ochre Pits, of significance to the local Arrrente Aboriginal people and scale the mighty Mt Sonder with 360° views. Each evening transfer by air-conditioned, 4WD outback tour coach to your accommodation for a shower and a meal to round out the day.

Cost from: **\$2990** per person, twin-share Single supplement from \$150

Prices are based on twin share accommodation. Single travellers may share with another single traveller of the same gender at no extra cost. A limited number of single rooms are available at extra cost.

Departs: 16th, 24th April; 2nd, 10th, 18th, 26th May; 3rd, 19th, 27th June; 5th, 13th, 21st, 29th July; 6th August, 2022

Includes: 2 nights in 3-star hotel rooms and 4 nights in comfortable easy to erect tents with shared facilities; all meals including trail snacks; support vehicle transfers to and from the track; luggage transport (1 medium soft sided bag per person, max weight 15kg), expert guides with a satellite phone, full first aid kit and emergency support.

Grade: Challenging with 6km to 16km per day. Most of the surface is rocky and uneven underfoot and some walks will require you to do some rock hopping. Walking up to 7 hours per day with ascents and descents and across uneven ground. Some walks are short and on the longer, more strenuous walks there may be options to reduce the walking distance. A good level of fitness is required, best acquired by regular hill walking, with steps if possible and over uneven terrain.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1 – Arrive Alice Springs

Optional walking

Arrive Alice Springs in the early afternoon and make your own way to check-in at your comfortable 3-star hotel. At 6pm meet up with your guides for a welcome briefing before dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 2 – Geoff Moss Bridge to Wallaby Gap

Walking distance @ 9km

After breakfast depart Alice Springs by coach to the start of the walk at Geoff Moss Bridge. The Larapinta Trail follows the ridges just behind Alice Springs town and offers glimpses of the endless mountain ranges in every direction. The walk ends at Wallaby Gap and from there the coach will transfer to Ellery Creek Campground.

Day 3 – Serpentine Gorge to Serpentine Chalet Dam

Walking distance @ 14km

Today take in one of the most popular walks on the Larapinta Trail. From the base of Serpentine Gorge, head up to the top of the ridge, looking out for Mountain Hakea flowers along the way and enjoying the incredible views. Counts Point offers the most iconic view of the Larapinta Trail, from where we head back down towards Serpentine Chalet Dam. Transfer for another night to Ellery Creek Campground.

Day 4 - Ormiston Gorge Pound Walk and The Ochre Pits

Walking distance @ 9km

After breakfast, pack up camp and transfer to our new campsite at Ormiston Gorge located 135km west of Alice Springs in the Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park. See the ring of mountains making up Ormiston Gorge Pound, the towering walls showing off the great beauty of Central Australia. At the end of the walk head to the Ochre Pits - a significant site for the local Arrrente Aboriginal people who used to crush the ochre and mix it with animal fats and water to make a paste. The paste was used for ceremonies, medicines and paintings was the main source of trade for the Arrrente people. Stay for two nights at the Ormiston Gorge Campground.

Day 5 – Mt. Sonder

Walking distance @ 16km

Today's walk is one of the highlights to Mt Sonder. Mt Sonder or Rweyepme (its Aboriginal name) is the fourth highest mountain in the Northern Territory at 1380 metres. The walk starts at Redbank on the valley floor and takes a slow ascent with some steep sections to get to the Saddle. Walk along the Saddle to take in the vastness before ascending to the top of Mt. Sonder. It is well worth the effort to enjoy a well-deserved lunch with spectacular 360° views. Walk back down to the valley and transfer to Ormiston Gorge Campground, with time to enjoy a refreshing swim before dinner.

Day 6 – Simpsons Gap to Wallaby Gap

Walking distance @ 11km

The last day on the Larapinta Trail we start with a short climb out of Simpsons Gap with beautiful view across the West MacDonnell Ranges. The remainder of the days walk is relatively flat with some undulation back to Wallaby Gap. Transfer to the accommodation in Alice Springs.

Day 7 – Depart Alice Spring

No Walking

Your tour ends after breakfast. Ask us for extra nights' accommodation in Alice Springs.

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Outdoor Travel offer a wide range of guided walking experiences in Australia and New Zealand including the **Great Ocean Walk** in Victoria, the **Freycinet Walk** in Tasmania and the rugged and remote **Kimberley** region of North Western Australia. In New Zealand try the **Milford Sound Track** guided walk, **Routeburn Walk**, **Grand Traverse**, **Abel Tasman Walk** or **Sea-Kayak**, **Akaroa Walk** or **Queen Charlotte Walk**.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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