

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL



*Your South Pacific Travel Specialists*

# AUSTRALIA

2024-2025 GUIDED HOLIDAYS



**FIRST CHOICE** 5-21 day Fully Curated Experiences **From page 26**

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# Untamed Kimberley & West Coast



## Highlights

### Local Connection

Passion unites the people who work in Kununurra's thriving sandalwood industry, as well as those who guide you while cruising the Kimberley's Danggu (Geikie) Gorge.

### Cultural Immersion

The only way to understand life on the land is to visit a working farm. The Katherine Outback Experience is not only eye-opening, but entertaining.

### Sustainable Footprints

Sleep soundly knowing your stays at Karijini National Park's Eco Tents and El Questro's Emma Gorge Resort are not only stylish, but sustainable.

### Wildlife & Nature

The Ningaloo Coast has World Heritage status for good reason – it cradles one of the most biodiverse marine sanctuaries in Australia.



Swim with Whale Sharks, Ningaloo Reef (Optional Experience)

**21 DAYS**  
**22 Included Experiences**

## Departure Dates

2024	
May	07
Jul	02, 30
Aug	13

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/wdbp](https://aatkings.com/wdbp) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

20 Full breakfasts B	15 Dinners with wine DW
2 Lunches L	1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Darwin Airport  
Day 21 – flights to depart anytime from Perth Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

### 1 Welcome to Darwin

You'll fall for the capital of the NT; its balmy tropical climes, fiery sunsets and laid-back locals. Take in the sights on a tour, learning about the events that have shaped it over the years. Later, join your Travel Director for a Welcome Dinner. **Hotel: Vibe Darwin Waterfront. DW**

### 2 Darwin – Katherine

Nature takes over at Nitmiluk National Park, where you cruise through dramatic Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge. There's no time to catch your breath – you're off to meet Tom Curtain on a cattle station, where he entertains through song and stories. **Hotel: Contour. B DW**

### 3 Katherine – Kununurra

Kununurra exists thanks to the Ord River Irrigation Scheme. The project not only helped water the countryside, but created Lake Argyle. You won't forget your sunset cruise. **Hotel: Kununurra Country Club Resort, 2 nights. B DW**

### 4 Kununurra

Today is one of decisions: An optional early-morning flight over (or 4WD tour of) the Bungle Bungles? Or a wander with your Travel Director through Mirima National Park. Regardless, enjoy sunset atop Kelly's Knob. **B**

### 5 Kununurra – Emma Gorge

Go behind the scenes at Hoochery Distillery, which not only makes lip-smacking rum, but also delicious rum cake. From here you're on the epic Gibb River Road to El Questro Wilderness Park, where an oasis of pandanus and palms envelops your safari-style accommodation. **Hotel: Emma Gorge Resort, Tented Cabin with private facilities, El Questro, 2 nights. B DW**

### 6 El Questro Wilderness Park

The Kimberley's sounds follow you across the mighty Pentecost River to freshwater Chamberlain Gorge, your boat dwarfed by its soaring escarpments while you cruise. Afternoon remedy? A splash in the pool, perhaps, or a dip in the waterhole within Emma Gorge. Take your pick. **B DW**

### 7 Emma Gorge – Halls Creek

While the Argyle Diamond Mine has stopped producing rare pink diamonds, you can still visit with an Aboriginal guide. Your destination for the night, Halls Creek is small in population, but big in personality. **Hotel: Kimberley. B L DW**

### 8 Halls Creek – Fitzroy Crossing

Dive deep into First Nations culture at the Aboriginal art gallery in Fitzroy Crossing, the gateway to Danggu (Geikie) Gorge. This remarkable part of the Kimberley was formed by the Fitzroy River carving the Napier Range. It's a fertile home for creatures big and small. **Hotel: Fitzroy River Lodge. B L DW**

### 9 Fitzroy Crossing – Broome

The reason Broome was born is because of pearls. Today, it's just as well known for its sizzling Indian Ocean sunsets, best enjoyed from the Cable Beach sand. **Hotel: Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa, 2 nights. B**

### 10 Broome Free Time

Today is yours to explore. Perhaps veer off to a pearl farm, to witness the precision that goes into growing and harvesting these gems. Or simply enjoy Broome's tropical climes, strolling along 22-kilometre Cable Beach, hunting for dinosaur footprints and browsing boutiques. **B DW**

### 11 Broome – Port Hedland

The eye-opening colours of the Pilbara are your backdrop today. It's sparsely populated, but there are plenty of local characters to meet over dinner in Port Hedland. **Hotel: Hospitality. B DW**

### 12 Port Hedland – Karijini National Park

Karijini is where gorges seem to cleave off the edge of the Earth, waterfalls tumble from escarpments and turquoise rock pools shimmer like precious gems. You're hundreds of kilometres from anywhere, so expect dazzling stargazing from your safari tent. **Hotel: Karijini Eco Retreat, 2 nights. B DW**

### 13 Karijini National Park

It took billions of years to create Karijini's geological wonders: the red layered cliffs, the quiet gorges, the soaring gum trees and distinctive termite mounds. Cooling off under waterfalls is highly recommended. **B DW**

### 14 Karijini National Park – Exmouth

There are a few (hundred) kilometres of Pilbara to cover between Karijini and Exmouth on the World Heritage listed Ningaloo Coast. This pocket of the state is also blessed with Cape Range National Park, where gorges and waterfalls beckon. **Hotel: Mantarays Ningaloo Beach Resort, 2 nights. B DW**

### 15 Exmouth Free Time

Depending on the time of year, Ningaloo Reef is home to both whale sharks and humpbacks. Opt to snorkel with both (ethically) or book a sunset cruise, sparkling wine in hand. The decision is yours. **B DW**

### 16 Exmouth – Carnarvon

Today's cruise in a glass-bottomed boat allows you to glimpse Ningaloo's extraordinary marine life in comfort. Next stop is the Carnarvon Space and Technology Museum. Did you know it played a role in the 1969 moon landing? **Hotel: Best Western Hospitality. B DW**

### 17 Carnarvon – Monkey Mia

Prepare yourself for the 'living fossils' at Hamelin Pool, home to the most abundant colony of stromatolites in the world. The state's World Heritage listed Shark Bay is also characterised by Shell Beach, formed from billions of coquina bivalve shells. **Hotel: Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort, 2 nights. B DW**

### 18 Monkey Mia Free Time

Meet the wild resident dolphins that turn up to the shore every morning, then spend the afternoon at leisure. Optional sunset cruise or scenic flight over the bay, anyone? **B**

### 19 Monkey Mia – Geraldton

Peregrine falcons swoop over Hawks Head Lookout in Kalbarri National Park, particularly pretty during wildflower season. Arriving in Geraldton, pay homage to sailors lost at the HMAS Sydney Memorial. **Hotel: Mantra. B**

### 20 Geraldton – Perth

Nambung National Park's Pinnacles are a staggering collection of natural limestone structures, jutting into the sky. It's a spiritual place, as is Yanchep National Park, where your Aboriginal guide decodes native plants and tells Dreamtime stories on a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Discover the culture of the Noongar people of Western Australia's southwest: their seasonal movements, language and how knowledge is passed from generation to generation. **Hotel: Crowne Plaza. B FD**

### 21 Farewell from Perth

It's hard to believe this epic adventure has come to an end. Three weeks of incredible memories to take home with you. **B**

