

AUSTRALIAN WILD TOURS



WITH ANDREW UCLES



Welcome to your information guide on your AUSTRALIAN WILD TOUR, my name is Andrew Ucles and together we are going to explore, wrangle and survive the Australian Outback.

This tour has been designed to specifically showcase the rawness of the Northern Territory, in a colourful, comedic, charismatic but ultimately captivating experience.

My main aim of the tour is to create an unforgettable journey that will connect you closer to nature and make you feel comfortable and confident in your surroundings.

The below program showcases the operational areas of the tours and what to expect when you are out in the field, get excited Chuch!

Welcome to the Northern Territory.

The location of the tour is within the Finniss River Station and along the Finniss River.

The tour program incorporates an objective list within each area where specialty skills sets are focused on individual habitats.

Within each area we will have a list of animal species that we will aim to discover, this is where you will need to immerse yourself into the environment and essentially tap into your instincts.

The secondary aspect of the tour incorporates basic survival; bush craft, shelter development, water purification, navigation, game preparation, fire making and persistence hunting are all aspects we will explore.

And it wouldnt be a Territory experience without trying your luck at catching a Barramundi or a Giant Mud Crab.



FINNISS RIVER STATION



Re-Discover & Re-Wild on the Finniss River.

Tours are conducted on the Finniss River Station a wilderness oasis embedded within nature's diverse labyrinth of escarpments, wetlands and monsoonal rainforests boarded by the secluded and private beach front of the Timor Sea.

The Wildlife diversity visually stretches throughout each changing ecosystem, from Buffalo in the Marshes to Crocodiles in the Mangroves. Our transient birdlife creates an orchestrate of atmospheric symphony from cackling Magpie geese, to dancing Brolga's and Kookaburras.

Explore nature's wonders on the Finniss River, the Territory's very own Wildlife Sanctuary.

Average Temperatures

APRIL, MAY & SEPTEMBER

🌡️ 22°C / 72°F Minimum

🌡️ 32°C / 90°F Maximum

💧 Humidity Relatively High

☁️ Low Rainfall

JUNE, JULY & AUGUST

🌡️ 19°C / 66°F Minimum

🌡️ 31°C / 88°F Maximum

💧 Lower Humidity

☁️ Negligible Rainfall

OCTOBER TO MARCH

🌡️ 25°C / 77°F Minimum

🌡️ 35°C / 95°F Maximum

💧 High Humidity

☁️ High Rainfall (Dec-Mar)

FINNISS RIVER CLIMATE

Seasons

Finniss River Lodge is located in the tropical savannah region of Australia's Top End, and enjoys a warm climate year-round. The 'dry' season typically extends from April to November, and the 'green' (or wet) season usually runs from December to March, although the Indigenous calendar identifies 6 seasons a year as heat and humidity rise and fall in between the dry and the wet.

FINNISS RIVER LODGE



Finniss River Lodge is a new resort with personalised service, and just 6 luxury rooms, expansive decking and an infinity pool looking west across vast floodplains.

Luxury Lodge Accomodation

Finniss River Lodge nestles beautifully into its panoramic landscape with breathtaking views over the horizon pool and wetlands.

We have just 6 exclusive suites, assuring you of a personalised stay and the highest calibre service.

Discover our Luxe Suites

Perched on the edge of a vast floodplain, every one of Finniss River Lodge's 6 rooms commands expansive views and fiery sunsets. The style is "bush character meets contemporary elegance"; understated luxury and attentive service for just 12 indulged guests.

Watch the ever-changing floodplain from the comfort of your temperature-controlled room and private veranda.

All suites at Finniss River Lodge have king-split beds (king beds that convert into 2 single beds) of the finest quality and levels of comfort. Two sets of rooms interconnect, creating two x 2 bedroom family options each accommodating up to 5 guests.



MEALS



BREAKFAST: Continental breakfast is supplied as your kick starter to the day, a variety of cereal brands are available and an assortment of fruits and nuts. Coffee and Tea is also provided with condiments.

LUNCH: Assorted fresh wraps are prepared daily with your choice of garnish (lettuce, tomato, cheese) and meats (chicken, ham, tuna) additional sauces are also provided for your specific taste preference.

DINNER*: Dinner Menus are hand crafted by specialty Outback chef Travis Crane, each meal has a unique and authentic taste of Australiana blended with the spices and flavors which enhance your taste experience.

*meals may differ slightly due to produce availability



BUFFALO

Smoked buffalo, sweet potato, zucchini, coconut and kaffir lime



CROCODILE

Braised in smoked tomato and lemon myrtle, snake beans, cherry tomato, finger lime and cous cous



KANGAROO

Braised kangaroo tail, kipfler potato, onion, native pepper berry served with handmade damper

SNACKS: An assortment of campfire snacks are also provided

THE BUSH CAMP



Situated in a secret and secluded location on the western frontier of the Finnis River Station is a Bush camp retreat, nestled amongst the escarpment range and hidden by the coastal rainforest your presence will be welcomed by the native animals that call this place home.

Camp Accomodation

The elemental design of the bush camp ensures your experience to be raw and authentic. The XTM Double Swags offers a spacious retreat with a mat double Wanderer insert and all round protected housing you can be guaranteed a relaxing and peaceful sleep under the stars.

A natural rocked shower has also been crafted into this amazing setting, drawing up water from a natural spring so you can now shower under the canopy of the trees. The rustic and western tradition of a tank plunge pool has also become a permanent feature of the base camp, relax in the moonlight after a long days exploring.

Outback lanterns illuminate the bush camp from the shower to the surroundings paths to allow easy visibility and a natural lighting setting amongst the night time glow. An Outback toilet is also situated on the camp.



DAY ONE • ITINERARY

7AM : Pickup

Australian Wild Tours offers transport to and from the Darwin CBD. The Finnis River Station is approximately 90 minutes drive (120KM) south east of Darwin.

9:30AM

Excess baggage will be taken to the Finnis River Accommodation Storage locker for those residing at the Bush Camp; all items which are not required on the tour can be left at this location. For those staying at the lodge your room will be allocated and your personal belongings stowed for your return.

10:00AM

Arrive at the Australian Wild Tours Bush camp situated roughly 30 minutes drive on the western frontier of the Finnis River Station. The Bush camp is situated in a secluded location founded on a spectacular escarpment ridgeline.

10:30AM – 12:00PM : Bush Craft Survival

- Fire making
- Water Procurement Methods
- Survival First Aid

12:00 – 1:00PM : Lunch

Assorted Wraps, Fruits, Nuts & Snacks

1:00 – 2:30PM : Bush Craft Survival cont.

- Shelter Designs
- Navigation
- Animal Trapping & Snaring Demonstrations

2:30 – 5:00PM

Adventure walk along the escarpment range. It is here that you will begin your conditioning and acclimatization to the elements around you. This is your first walk through the dense rainforest of the Finnis River Station, the trail is approximately 5km long and takes roughly 1.5 hours to complete.



5:30 – 6:30PM : Dinner

Crocodile braised in smoked tomato and lemon myrtle, snake beans, cherry tomato, finger lime and cous cous.

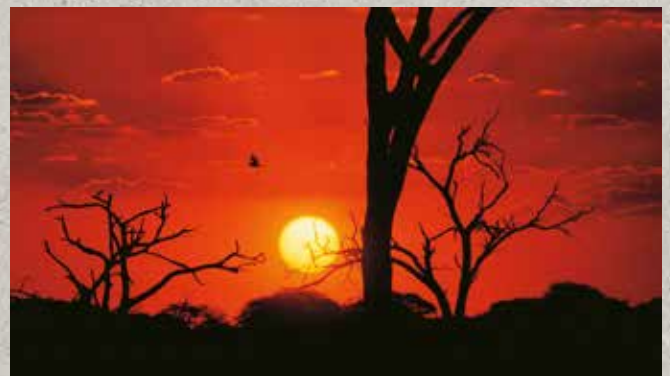
6:30 – 8:00PM

Campfire, Relax & Plunge Pool

8:30 – 9:30PM

Night time Wildlife Spotting. Making our way towards the floodplain there are a diversity of nocturnal animals which can be spotted on our walk including; Barking Owls, Southern Boo Book Owls, Night Jars, Water Pythons, Keel back Snakes, Cane Toads and Crocodiles.

10:00PM : Bedtime



DAY TWO • ITINERARY

6AM : Wake Up

6:30AM : Continental Breakfast

Assorted Cereals, Fruits, Nuts, Coffee & Tea.

7:00AM

Transit to Dundee Beach Boat Ramp situated roughly 1 hour from the Finnis River Base Camp.

7:30AM

Embark on a 45 minute coastal voyage on the Timor Sea to the secluded Finnis River roughly 20KM from Dundee Beach.

8:30AM – 3:30PM

Fishing the Finnis River (Collecting both Mud Crab & Barramundi)

Lunch

Assorted Wraps, Fruits, Nuts & Snacks

3:30 – 4:30PM

Transit from Dundee Beach Boat Ramp to Finnis River Base Camp.

4:30- 5:30PM : Dinner

Traditional Dinner Setup (Barramundi or Mud Crab over the hot coals) additional meal is also provided regardless of the catch. Additional prepared meal (Smoked Buffalo, sweet potato, zucchini, coconut and Kaffir lime.)

5:30 – 8:00PM

Campfire, Relax & Plunge Pool

9:00 - 10:00PM: Bedtime



DAY THREE • ITINERARY

8AM : Wake Up

8:30AM : Continental Breakfast

Assorted Cereals, Fruits, Nuts, Coffee & Tea.

9:00AM

Walking through multiple habitat types (Three selected areas on the station) Coastal Marsh, Floodplain Edges and Paper bark swamp we set off on an adventure each trail is roughly 2.5KM round trip. Our main objective is to track down and capture a Wild Boar, this is also an opportunity to see all of the Finnis River wildlife up close and personal from; monitor lizards, frilled necked lizards, snakes, crocodiles, jabirus, egrets, brolgas and many more birdlife species.

The first two tracks will take us to 1PM.

1PM : Lunch

(Is potentially the 3rd option Dinner menu) Braised Kangaroo tail, kipler potato, onion, native pepper berry.

2:00PM – 3:30PM

Final track through the Paper bark Swamp (The Hidden Labyrinth)

4:00PM

Depart Base camp/Station for DARWIN

5:30PM : Arrive in Darwin

RESEARCH AND SAFETY

Australian Wild Tours have integrated the Department of Primary Industries Shark Tagging Program into game fishing conductions.

The DPI Shark Tagging Program is used to obtain information on the biology, distribution, movement, growth, exploitation of identified shark species.

Steel head shark tag "S-Series" are implanted below the dorsal fin and above the lateral line. Once tag has been placed, the shark is released.



How does the tagging program work? Tags are issued to anglers and when an angler catches a Shark it is tagged and released, the details of the capture are recorded on a tag card with the corresponding tag number. The card is returned to DPI.

How is the data from the program used? The tagging data is used by scientists to study the lives and habits of these fish species. The migratory habits of the tagged fish are observed by measuring the distance and direction travelled between tagging and recapture, and this can be linked with environmental factors. Growth patterns are also monitored.

The observations also enable scientists to study the structure of fish stocks and assess whether there is any mixing between populations that are geographically distant from one another. This information is vital to improve the understanding and management of valuable game and sport fish species.

Australian Wild Tours are an advocate and educational platform which communicate the protection of Crocodiles and Public Safety in alignment with the NT Government CrocWise Campaign.

There is estimated to be around 100,000 saltwater crocodiles in the wild in the NT.

Every year thousands of tourists and locals enjoy the natural resources of the Northern Territory from Kakadu & Litchfield National Park to the far remote extremities of Arnhem Land.

BeingSAFEaroundthewaterandidentifying areas which may inhabit Crocodiles is part of the Australian Wild Tours experience, observe and interact with one of the most respected predators on earth.



**BE
CROCWISE**

CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY

Australian Wild Tours aligns its vision with the mission statement of the Northern Territory Government in the protection and promotion of the natural resources for future generations.

FROM PEST TO PLATE

Cane Toads have presented to be one of Australia's greatest ecological disasters with their introduction in the 1935 since their establishment they have caused significant declines in biodiversity and have led to the local extinction of species as a result of consuming the highly toxic toad.

The Cane Toad toxin has the potency to kill many Australian native animals and has disrupted the ecological balance of ecosystems with the removal of predators such as the Northern Quoll.

The ethical dispatching of Cane Toads in Australia is encouraged throughout all communities and recently their use as novelty food resource has excited many food industry enthusiasts.

Australian Wild Tours has embraced its own spicy revenge on this environmental disaster, now serving the Cane Toad as an optional survival based food to clients which are game enough to taste this delicacy which has been safely prepared.



Australian Wild Tours mission is to showcase how Feral Pigs have affected the environment and to educate the public on methods of their removal. Bringing the clients up close and personal with one of Australia's greatest bio security concerns.

Feral Pigs in Australia have caused significant environmental effects since their introduction by European settlement. The effects are both direct and indirect on natural resources and agricultural production with a concern of the potential diseases that pigs may harbour.

Australian Wild Tours believes that the key to education is to immerse yourself into the environment and feel part of nature, seeing these animals up close and personal connects an individual's responsibility to protect the land.



