# POTTER TRAVEL 18 DAY WEST COAST DARWIN TO PERTH

Departing: Monday 19 August 2019 Returning: Thursday 5 September 2019













# Day 1: (B) CANBERRA TO DARWIN: Monday 19 August 2019

Step off the plane in Darwin to be greeted with a wave from our familiar Potter Travel coach captain. We'll be whisked away to our cool and inviting hotel to freshen up for a celebratory welcome dinner.

Double Tree by Hilton Esplanade Darwin, Darwin | 08 8980 0800

# Day 2: (BLD) DARWIN TO KATHERINE: Tuesday 20 August 2019

Leaving Darwin behind, our adventure awaits us. It begins sombrely with a visit to Australia's only war cemetery on Australian soil. At Adelaide River we pay our respects to those who died as a result of Japanese bombing raids. We then set off towards Katherine. Arriving at Katherine Gorge, our cruise transports us through the tranquil surroundings into a spiritual world of Jawoyn culture and history. Discover the music, stories and ways of the Jawoyn against a magnificent backdrop of cliff faces changing with the setting sun. Back on dry land, we enjoy dinner overlooking the Katherine River.

Knotts Crossing Resort, Katherine | 08 8972 2511

#### Day 3: (BLD) KATHERINE TO KUNUNURRA: Wednesday 21 August 2019

From Katherine we travel across the top of enormous Gregory National Park. It might be fitting to bring author Sara Henderson's Strength to Strength autobiography to read along this stretch as we'll pass the entrance to Bullo River Station, the cattle station

# TOUR COSTS:

\$7,795 per person Twin / Double Share \$9,490 Sole Occupancy Please call the office for Direct Deposit details she once owned. We reach one of our tour milestones today by crossing the Western Australian border and on into Lake Argyle. It is Western Australia's largest freshwater, man-made reservoir by volume and is part of the Ord River irrigation scheme. After our lunch under the trees, we embark on a highlight of our tour in the Kimberley's. At the base of Lake Argyle's dam wall, we board our vessel taking us downstream to Kununurra along the Ord River. The Ord River Scheme was a progressive and far sighted move to develop the tropical north of Western Australia. This spectacular cruise showcases the beauty of the river and the comprehensive commentary along the way will give us a good appreciation of what we are seeing. Entranced by one of Kununurra's impressive sunsets we arrive at the dock to find our coach captain ready to take us to our lodgings and to dinner.

#### Day 4: (BLD) KUNUNURRA: Thursday 22 August 2019

Kimberley Grand Hotel, Kununurra | 1300 955 549

Consider choosing a once in a lifetime opportunity this morning by joining an optional flight over the Bungle Bungle Range and Purnululu National Park. We'll see the sun rise and witness the imposing sight of the Bungle Bungles – what a great start to the day. Over a later breakfast with the rest of the group, we can share what we discovered. A tour of Kununurra follows with a local expert who will introduce us to the highlights of the area. A visit to the Sandalwood Factory, also our lunch venue, rounds out the morning. We visit the Mirima National Park just out of town - the sandstone formations here resemble the domes of the Bungle Bungles. We have the remainder of our day to enjoy as we wish.

Kimberley Grand Hotel, Kununurra | 1300 955 549

#### Day 5: (BLD) DIAMOND MINE: Friday 23 August 2019

We take advantage of the imminent closure of the Argyle Diamond Mine today and visit whilst we still can. Australia's only major diamond producer of the extremely rare and valuable pink diamonds, champagne and cognac diamonds, the mine is due for closure shortly when the mine has been exhausted. It's even in a secret location and cannot be found on any maps! Our traditional owner guide will show us around the extraordinary mine site before we are let loose for lunch in the miners mess dining hall, akin to an oasis in the desert. There are all sorts of offerings here that we will enjoy. At the Diamond Shop we are able to purchase direct from the mine. It's now onto Halls Creek, on the edge of the Great Sandy Desert.

Kimberley Hotel Halls Creek | 08 9168 6101

## Day 6: (BLD) HALLS CREEK TO DERBY: Saturday 24 August 2019

The magnificent red mountain scenery of the Kimberley is our backdrop today, making our way along the Great Northern Highway. Fitzroy Crossing Lodge is our lunch venue and then we are ready for another tour highlight – our cruise at Geikie Gorge, known by its Aboriginal name of Darngku. We'll be given an insight into the wildlife and geology of this spectacular landscape as we cruise the Fitzroy River. Its path has been carved through the fossil 'barrier reef' formed 300 million years ago! Derby is our next overnight stay with a slightly later dinner this evening.

Spinifex Hotel, Derby | 08 9191 1233

## Day 7: (BLD) DERBY TO BROOME: Sunday 25 August 2019

At the Visitor Information Centre we collect our local expert for an understanding of this town at the edge of King Sound. Derby is the main base for the Royal Flying Doctor Service in the Kimberley. The area is also home to the famous Boab Prison tree. Said to be 1500 years old, it has an entrance about one metre wide and two metres high; allegedly used as an overnight lock up for prisoners. We have time here for a group photo before continuing to our early lunch stop at Willare Bridge. As we get closer to Broome our anticipation will grow, finally seeing the Indian Ocean and the modern digs of the Oaks Resort. We have two pools to choose from and a lovely setting for a pre-dinner drink.

Oaks Resort Broome, Broome | 08 9192 9500

## Day 8: (BHTD) BROOME: Monday 26 August 2019

Broome is bound by wide sandy beaches and turquoise water. The discovery of rich pearling grounds off the coast in the 1880s led to the foundation of Broome which became the world's leading pearling centre. A comprehensive tour around Broome commences with a look at Gantheaume Point Lighthouse. We take the well-worn track past the interpretive signage to reach the cast of dinosaur footprints and Anastasia's Pool. The Broome Turf Club has a firm red dirt track and is the venue for the well-patronised Broome Cup held this time of year. We'll also stop to see the Japanese cemetery that dates back to the very early pearling days and bears witness to the close ties Japan established with Broome in the early 20th century. Arriving at Pearl Luggers we finish our local tour in style with a high tea, including a glass of sparkling wine. A talk on pearling equipment of old, from actual hard hat diving suits to the air pumps will be captivating especially as we hear the personal stories of the divers. Later, a postcard highlight will be the setting sun behind Cable Beach, so have the camera ready! Dinner follows at the restaurant overlooking the beach so we can see the sunset in its entirety.

Oaks Resort Broome, Broome | 08 9192 9500

#### Day 9: (BLD) BROOME TO PORT HEDLAND: Tuesday 27 August 2019

Out of our window today is some of the most sparsely populated and remote areas of Australia as we skirt the Great Sandy Desert. We'll stop for picnic lunches and a mid-afternoon break en route to our destination of Port Hedland.

Hospitality Inn, Port Hedland | 08 9173 1044

# Day 10: (BD) PORT HEDLAND TO KARRATHA: Wednesday 28 August 2019

Considered to be the gateway to the Pilbara, we have a look around Port Hedland with the help of a local. Our tour will follow the footsteps of the first European settlers by visiting the town's heritage sites. We will get the opportunity to learn about the human face to a town far more diverse than it may first appear. Saying farewell to our guide, we purchase lunch and set off on our afternoon journey to Karratha.

Ibis Styles, Karratha | 08 9159 1000

#### Day 11: (BLD) KARRATHA TO CORAL BAY: Thursday 29 August 2019

In nearby Dampier we visit the North West Shelf Visitor Centre. The centre will give us a good explanation of the gas extraction, liquefaction and exporting process on the Burrup Peninsula production. The centre has a view of Woodside's plant and port facility, where a staggering rate of 10,000 cubic metres per hour is loaded onto ships for export. Leaving the Pilbara, watch as the red dirt becomes lighter as we continue our southbound travels. The Gascoyne region is an area with communities dedicated to showcasing their natural beauty including marine parks filled with interesting wildlife. We pass Giralia Station, a very large and isolated farm which runs approximately 25,000 sheep. Arriving into beautiful Coral Bay will feel like a huge contrast from that of the Pilbara. This remote but fascinating area of Western Australia is famous for its fishing, whale sharks and mantarays, as well as being located right on Ningaloo Reef National Park.

Ningaloo Reef Resort, Coral Bay | 08 9942 5934

#### Day 12: (BD) CORAL BAY: Friday 30 August 2019

With the gentle warmth of the sun on our faces we embark our coral viewing vessel for a cruise around the remarkable fringing reef of Ningaloo Marine Park. Coral Bay is ours to uncover for the rest of the day.

Ningaloo Reef Resort, Coral Bay | 08 9942 5934

#### Day 13: (BLD) CORAL BAY TO MONKEY MIA: Saturday 31 August 2019

Today we reach the Tropic of Capricorn, the dividing line between the southern temperate zone and the tropics. It's a great photo opportunity! A late lunch puts us into Denham mid-afternoon for a brief visit to the Shark Bay World Heritage and Discovery Centre. We'll be taken on a journey of discovery through the centre and its displays. Our overnight stay is at Monkey Mia, a well-known reserve famous for its local dolphins.

Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort, Monkey Mia | 08 9948 1320

# Day 14: (BLD) MONKEY MIA DOLPHINS AND STROMATOLITES: Sunday 01 September 2019

As the ranger enters the knee deep water, we'll be entertained by friendly dolphins (sightings cannot be guaranteed). Not just for the biologists amongst us, the colony of Stromatolites at Hamelin Pool (fossil micro organisms that date back to the beginning of life on earth and found only in three places in the world) is something to see! Lunch at the Telegraph Station follows. Arriving into Kalbarri, we'll visit Rainbow Jungle, considered to be Australia's most beautiful parrot habitat. The largest parrot free flight aviary in the country is here as is the biggest flock of Purple Crowned Lorikeets in the world.

The Edge Resort, Kalbarri | 08 9937 0000

#### Day 15: (BD) KALBARRI TO CERVANTES: Monday 02 September 2019

Geraldton is the home of the HMAS Sydney II Memorial. It is a well worth a visit and is recognised as a national memorial. Our coastal route continues to the town of Cervantes, the access point to Nambung National Park. We'll visit the park to view thousands of huge, mysterious limestone pillars that rise from the shifting yellow sands – the Pinnacles. The nearby Pinnacles Desert Discovery Centre will explain its mysteries, history and habitats. We then return to Cervantes for dinner and our overnight accommodation.

Cervantes Pinnacles Motel, Cervantes | 08 9652 7145

## Day 16: (BLD) CERVANTES TO PERTH: Tuesday 03 September 2019

On our radar today is the fascinating town of New Norcia. It was here that the Spanish Benedictine monks established a monastery as an Aboriginal mission and is now one of the great cultural heritage sites of Australia. We enjoy a tour of the town and a visit to the amazing Museum and Art Gallery. After lunch in the New Norcia Hotel, we make our way into Perth.

Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough Beach Perth | 08 9245 1000

#### Day 17: (BD) PERTH: Wednesday 04 September 2019

Let's uncover the delights of Perth today, starting with Kings Park. From our vantage point we see the Swan and Canning Rivers below and the Darling Ranges out to the east. We'll have a look around the gardens filled with unique flora and hopefully some wildflowers. Our morning also includes a visit to the imposing Bell Tower. We'll be given a talk on their link with royalty as well as a demonstration on the art of chiming a bell. Our afternoon is free to do as we please. We'll share our stories from the day together over our farewell dinner this evening.

Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough Beach Perth | 08 9245 1000

## Day 18: (B) PERTH TO CANBERRA: Thursday 05 September 2019

What an amazing achievement as we wrap up our tour! With our new friends and memories from such a fantastic tour, we board our plane and head home to Canberra.

# **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

<u>DEPOSIT</u> is required within 14 days of booking confirming your reservation. If no deposit is received, Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel the booking. Deposit is \$500.00 per person and includes an airline deposit of \$110.00 which is non refundable after Thursday 14 February 2019.

**FINAL PAYMENT: MONDAY 20 MAY 2019** 

#### **CANCELLATION TERMS & CONDITIONS:**

Reservations that are cancelled prior to **Mon 20 May 2019**: Full refund of deposit less \$50.00 administration fee and airfare deposit. Reservations that are cancelled on or after **Mon 20 May 2019** and prior to **Wed 19 Jun 2019**: loss of 25% of total tour cost.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after Wed 19 Jun 2019 and prior to Fri 19 Jul 2019 loss of 50% of total tour cost.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after Fri 19 Jul 2019: loss of 100% of total tour cost.

Tour reference for Direct Deposits: Surname + P11150

The \$50.00 Potter Travel administration fee only occurs when a refund cheque is issued. There is no administration fee for funds transferred to another Potter Travel tour. No shows on day of departure or cancellations whilst on tour will be charged a 100% cancellation fee. Where Potter Travel cancels the tour as a result of insufficient numbers or due to reasons within Potter Travel's control, a full refund of any monies paid at the time of cancellation will be given.

The operation of the tour is subject to minimum numbers. Once inside the final payment date if your cancellation affects our minimum group numbers, Potter Travel reserves the right to impose further cancellation fees in addition to those noted above. Potter Travel reserves the right to pass on any additional fees or surcharges imposed by the airlines or wholesaler with or without notice.

**Tour Includes**: Dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation at the Hotels mentioned in the Itinerary, some lunches, morning and/or afternoon tea supplied from the coach, entry fees and/or guided tours to all attractions as mentioned in the itinerary, tickets to shows (if applicable), luxury coach travel and GST. Meals are stated in the itinerary as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch and D = Dinner.

Not Included: Alcoholic beverages or other drinks (except wine tasting), meals not specified, room service, telephone calls, some morning/afternoon teas or any items of a personal nature.

Forced Singles are not permitted on our tours. If you wish to twin share you will need to organise your own travelling companion, otherwise single supplement is payable.

Potter Travel recommends that Travel Insurance be taken to protect against unforeseen circumstances. Travel Insurance is available through Potter Travel.

Potter Travel reserves the right to alter itineraries without notice due to weather, road conditions or any other reason which is seen to be in the best interest of passengers travelling. The price is **subject to any changes imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary**. The operation and provision of services from other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary is the responsibility of these operators and no responsibility is taken by Potter Travel for the failure of such operators to provide the nominated service.

No guarantees will be given as to the exact arrival and departure times for carriers and operators used by Potter Travel. Drop offs may be in the opposite direction to the pickups depending on the touring route taken.

Daily **seat rotation** will take place on all extended tours, which all travellers must participate in as a condition of booking. Passengers suffering from motion sickness are advised to take the necessary precautions as seat rotation is compulsory.

Potter Travel accepts no responsibility for damage, loss of personal belongings or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport companies used for connecting tours operated by this company. Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel or postpone the tour due to insufficient numbers or as the result of circumstances outside the company's control.

Participation or inclusion in a photo taken by a Potter Travel staff member whilst on any of our tours, indicates that you are giving us the right to publish any such photos on our website or Facebook page for promotional purposes.

Potter Travel will be charging the \*1.03% merchant fee on all credit card transactions, as the banking industry imposes a broad range of fees and merchant charges to businesses. The charges will apply for partial or full payments by credit card. Cash, Cheque, Money Order and Eftpos payments will **NOT** incur any additional charges. \*Subject to change, in accordance with National Australia Bank Flexipay Merchant Fees.

Where tours are fully booked any future enquiries will be put onto a waitlist and as cancellations occur the person at the top of the waitlist will be contacted first and offered the seat followed by the second, the third and so on. In the instance that you are unable to be contacted on a daytime telephone number, the seat will be offered to the next person on the waitlist.

You must be able to embark and disembark the coach unaided to travel on a Potter Travel tour. Your deposit and final payment on our tour is acknowledgement that you have read and understood the booking terms and conditions as mentioned above.

# RESERVATIONS AND ENQUIRIES

# POTTER TRAVEL

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