

## INITIATE TOURS: THINGS TO KNOW

### **your arrival**

We don't expect any problems (and neither should you) but if for any reason you are unable to commence your scheduled journey with us, please contact your starting point accommodation, and leave a message for us. Unfortunately we cannot provide refunds for missed transfers or portions of your trip owing to a different or delayed flight arrivals. Additional cost incurred to meet up with your group will be at your expense however we will do our utmost to assist you in reaching us wherever possible.

### **joining point**

We will collect you from your accommodation or local airport. Please tell us prior to your departure where you are staying and whether you are arriving before day 1 of your trip so we know where to collect you.

We ask that you wait for us at the front doors of your accommodation for your pickup. You will have the opportunity to meet your soon to be new friends on board our vehicle.

### **format**

We offer novel adventures through vast landscapes along rugged roads experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up close, encountering wildlife up close and personal, visiting magnificent national parks and immersing yourself in ever changing landscapes

### **group size**

Maximum of 18 voyagers per group

### **accommodation**

Accommodation of every style is available from bush camps with no facilities, fixed campsites with facilities, glamping (luxury camping), to hotels and serviced apartments to help you design your own spellbinding voyage.

Our pre-arranged journeys generally offer a combination of fixed campsites and bush camps unless otherwise stated.

Bush camping involves sleeping in a swag which is a canvas bag that zips on all sides with a thick camping mattress and a pillow and blankets inside for your comfort. From your swag you have a panoramic view the brilliant night sky as you drift off to sleep beside the campfire

### **food and drink**

Most meals will be provided. Menus are specifically designed according to Ayurvedic principles to be as fresh, healthy and organic as possible and appeal to modern tastes. Our meals are packed with local seasonal fruit and vegetables for optimal vitality.

Bush bread (damper) will be prepared for you on an open fire. A glass of sparkling wine/non-alcoholic wine will be offered at the Uluru sunset/sunrise. All other alcohol is BYO.

Specific dietary requirements are catered for. Please inform us at the time of booking to discuss suitable arrangements

### **transport**

mini coaster buses, 4WD safari vehicles, walking

### **health**

We take your health and wellbeing seriously. Due to the nature of our tours you should have a reasonable level of physical fitness due to the sometimes demanding conditions in the outback. You should consult your doctor if you have any medical conditions to assess your suitability before departure. Please carefully read your tour itinerary to assess your ability to manage our style of travel

### **extra money**

Your individual spending money requirements will vary. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing extra money for drinks, shopping and participating in optional activities whilst on tour

### **climbing Uluru**

Passengers visiting Uluru (Ayers Rock) should be aware that the local Aboriginal Custodians (Anangu) prefer that visitors do not climb Uluru due to cultural reasons as the path to the summit crosses a sacred religious site. Furthermore, there are a surprising number of fatalities that have occurred over the years as a result of people climbing Uluru which the local Anangu people feel a responsibility for as the local custodians.

For these reasons we differ from all other tour companies in that it is our conscious decision not to include an opportunity to climb Uluru.

### **your fellow travellers**

Whether you are a single traveller or a group everyone is welcome on our voyages where you will meet new lifelong friends

Age restrictions apply: minimum age 8

### **our travel operator partner**

Our tours are operated by our experienced and wonderfully knowledgeable local partners "Remote Tours" (see [www.australiaoutbacktours.com](http://www.australiaoutbacktours.com) for more details)

### **responsible travel**

We are firmly committed to sustainability and positive impact tourism and all efforts are made to minimise our footprint on the local environments and cultures that we visit. We respect the uniqueness of local customs and cultures and are responsible travellers

### **Yummo Foundation**

Fundamental to our responsible travel policy is our commitment to the communities we travel to through our philanthropic activities. Since Initiate Tours commenced operating we have been committed to giving something back to the communities we visit. We support local Aboriginal development and conservation projects and to make things easier we established the Yummo Foundation which is a charity committed to supporting the Aboriginal people of Australia. 10% of all our profits are donated to the Yummo Foundation.

We find that many of our journeyers want to contribute something too. All donations to the Yummo Foundation are simple and secure and Initiate Tours ensures that every cent reaches its intended destination. If you are interested, please ask for information on the projects we support through the Yummo Foundation

### **what we provide**

We provide for your comfort fully air-conditioned touring vehicles, all meals (as listed on

itineraries), all camping equipment, first aid kits, swags and pillows, sleeping bags, blankets, reference books and fresh supplies of drinking water. Electricity power points are available throughout the trip to enable you to charge your ipods, cameras etc

### **what to bring**

What you need to bring will vary according to the tour you chose. In general we advise that you pack as lightly as possible and recommend keeping the weight under 15kg. Most travellers carry their luggage in a soft bag plus a small backpack or day pack to carry essentials such as water and a camera during the day.

The following checklist is to be used as a guide only and is not intended to be a complete packing list. Any other items that you wish to pack are at your own discretion however we ask that you please try to comply with the suggested luggage weight limit:

travel documents: travellers cheques/cash/credit card; personal medication; torch; water bottle (1.5 litres) ; sarong; sturdy comfortable walking shoes/boots; swim wear; towel ; sunscreen, hat and sunglasses (essential); daypack; toiletries; waterproofs (although we can supply); camera and spare batteries; thongs for showers; warm jacket and woolen hat for colder months (June, July, August); long loose-fitting, light coloured clothing for warmer months (October to March)