

Memory Mountain 7-Day Photography Tour Itinerary



Immerse Yourself in our Spectacular Outback

Day 1

- You will be met at Alice Springs airport by your Memory Mountain Guide who will pack your luggage into the vehicle, before you head for Glen Helen. (You may want to grab a snack to sustain you during the 2½ hour drive.)
- Departing Alice Springs, you will head west through the stunning West MacDonnell Ranges, to Glen Helen Gorge on the Finke River, where your lunch will be waiting.
- Your accommodation for the next 3 nights will be at Discovery Park - Glen Helen.
- Sunset photography this evening will be at Ormiston Gorge, before returning to Glen Helen for dinner and an early night.

Day 2

- This morning you will rise early and take a short walk to shoot Glen Helen Gorge at sunrise. Then you'll return for breakfast in the restaurant.
- Mid-morning, you will drive to Red Bank Gorge for loads of photographic opportunities, followed by a picnic lunch.
- In the afternoon, you will have the option of a helicopter flight (own cost) over the surrounding ranges, which are truly spectacular from the air.
- Your sunset photography location today will be the Sitting Camel, with Mt Sonder in the background.
- After dinner back at Glen Helen, you can have a fairly early night. If you have plenty of energy, there will be the option of doing some Astro photography near Glen Helen Gorge.

Day 3

- You will have another early start this morning to photograph sunrise at Ellery Creak, then Ellery Creek Big Hole.
- Your breakfast will be waiting when you return to Glen Helen.
- After breakfast you will have time to rest a little, then download your images and receive feedback from your instructor.
- Locations for afternoon and sunset photo opportunities today will be determined according to local weather and other conditions.

Day 4

- After breakfast at Glen Helen, you will pack up and move on to Haasts Bluff.
- Before lunch, you'll have the chance to settle in, freshen up, download images and recharge your batteries.
- Your accommodation for the next 3 nights will be in the Creative Technologies Centre at Haasts Bluff (CTC), with twin share accommodation and shared bathroom. In the CTC you will have complimentary Wi-Fi and a comfortable living area.
- This afternoon, you will go out to Memory Mountain for sunset photos and a climb to the summit with an Indigenous guide if you are so inclined (and fit enough).
- You will return to Haasts Bluff for dinner and a fairly early night.

Day 5

- After breakfast in the CTC, you will visit at least one of the local Arts Centres, meet some of the artists and possibly see demonstrations of Indigenous painting. Some of the most famous Indigenous artists in our nation come from this region, and you will have time to browse among the artworks and local crafts.
- After lunch and a short rest, you will join local Indigenous ladies around a campfire for a demonstration of cooking kangaroo tail in the traditional way.
- In the late afternoon you will head out to shoot sunset over Haasts Bluff.
- For dinner this evening (in the CTC) you will be joined by some of the local Elders and Traditional Owners of the land you're staying on as they tell you what Walk a While's projects mean to them and their communities.

Day 6

- You will be up early this morning to photograph sunrise at Atji's creek as the surrounding desert comes to life. You may be lucky enough to see brumbies, camels and other animals - and you will almost certainly be treated to a vast array of native birdlife.
- Your breakfast will be ready when you return to the CTC.
- Mid-morning you will go off on an adventure with a local Indigenous guide who will show you some special locations and tell you about the local bush tucker and bush medicines. You will also be able to see and photograph local artisans carving boomerangs, spears or other hunting implements.
- To finish your tour on a high note, your final sunset shoot will be in yet another outstanding location in the Far West MacDonnell Ranges.
- Back at the CTC, you will have dinner and a relaxing evening. You will have time to download images, clean your gear and maybe get some last feedback on your photos.

Day 7

- After an early breakfast, you will say farewell to Haasts Bluff and head back into town.
- Arriving in Alice Springs, you will be dropped off at the airport for your departing flight, unless you have decided to stay an extra few days to do some shopping or explore other great locations such as Uluru – Kata-Tjuta National Park, or Kings Canyon.

Tour Price of \$5,250 per person includes:

- All on-ground travel in air-conditioned 4WD vehicles
- All accommodation and meals
- Memory Mountain Entry Fees
- A professional photographer to lead you, help you and give you feedback on your images
- Local Indigenous guides

What's Not Included:

- Travel to and from Alice Springs
- Optional Helicopter Flight
- Tips & items of a personal nature

Please note: Your itinerary is subject to change according to weather and other local conditions.

On the next page you will find important information about your visit to Central Australia.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO MEMORY MOUNTAIN & THE RED CENTRE

YOUR ACCOMMODATION

If you have booked a multi-day tour, part of your stay will be at the Creative Technologies Centre (CTC) in Haasts Bluff, operated by Walk a While Foundation. The CTC features 5 bedrooms, a fully equipped kitchen, spacious living area, free 5G Wi-Fi internet, a shared bathroom and secure parking. Fresh linen and towels will be provided for you.

Due to the remote location, Walk a While recommends you do not drink the local water. It is safe for washing hands and showering, however we will provide spring water for you to drink during your stay.

YOUR TRANSPORT

All your on-ground transport will be in air-conditioned 4WD vehicles. All vehicles carry recovery equipment, satellite phone, fridge, roof top photography platform and tools, and have been fully modified for 4WD driving in outback conditions.

YOUR MEALS

Most of your meals will be provided during your stay (please refer to detailed itinerary for exceptions). Fresh fruit and snacks will also be available throughout the day and plenty of water to keep you hydrated. ***Please advise if you have any dietary requirements.***

MOBILE COVERAGE

Due to the remote location, there is limited mobile phone coverage in Haasts Bluff, although parts of Papunya have Telstra coverage. The Creative Technologies Centre has a land line, and the free 5G Wi-Fi connection allows Wi-Fi data calls to and from your mobile phone.

WEATHER

The semi-arid climate of the western desert region makes for warm travelling conditions. Sunny days and cooler nights may be expected for much of the year, while the hot summer often sees dramatic storms with rains which turn the Red Centre foliage a lush green. Daytime temperatures usually range from 35 to 38°C in summer (April to October) and 20 to 24°C in winter (June to September). Sometimes summer temperatures in December and January can climb to over 40°C.

CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR

Although there is no specific dress code for your stay, we recommend modest, comfortable, casual clothing. You will need sturdy enclosed walking shoes or boots for your trek up the mountain and for bush walking. Sandals or thongs are fine for wearing indoors and in the evenings.

WHAT TO BRING

Sturdy, enclosed walking / hiking shoes or boots
Insect Repellent
Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen and swimsuit
A refillable drink bottle
Chargers for all your electronic devices
Head Torch (available at camping supply stores)
Jacket or Jumper for cold mornings and evenings
Personal toiletries, medications, etc
Some cash for purchases at the local store
Camera / video camera with spare batteries, charger & storage cards
Laptop and/or portable hard drive/s to back up your images

CONTACT DETAILS:

Mitch Hudson, Ken Duncan Group
Email: workshops@kenduncan.com
Phone: +61 2 4367 6701

For more information, please email workshops@kenduncan.com