

## Central Australia – The Red Centre, Northern Territory

Renowned as the spiritual heart of Australia, the Red Centre in the Northern Territory is rich in Aboriginal culture and rugged outback beauty. Dual World Heritage-listed Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park is a living cultural landscape, covering an area of more than 311,000 acres. Australia's most recognisable natural icon and one of the world's largest monoliths, Uluru (Ayers Rock) is the region's gem and the sacred red rock domes of Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) stand nearby. A three-hour flight from most capital cities transports travellers to the timeless, rolling red sand dunes of the desert, surprisingly alive with verdant native vegetation and a fascinating wildlife community. Delve into the foundation of Anangu culture and learn some of the ancient creation stories of the land's traditional custodians. Spend time exploring the stunning flora and fauna and come face to face with this irresistible land in a sensory experience at once magic, majestic and splendidly isolated.

### Longitude 131° - 50 words

Longitude 131° offers immersion in the Australian outback, a true sense of stillness and beauty in this desert landscape, rich in cultural heritage and history. Luxury tented pavilions yield private views of fabled icon Uluru (Ayers Rock). Combining exclusive 'Red Centre' experiences, local cuisine and world-class service, Longitude 131° delivers an unforgettable encounter with this spirited land.

### Longitude 131° - 100 words

Longitude 131° offers immersion in the Australian outback, a true sense of stillness and beauty in this desert landscape, rich in cultural heritage and timeless history. Luxury tented pavilions float over rust-red dunes where classic furnishings meld with indigenous textures to evoke a sanctuary of earthy elegance. A private glass wall yields unparalleled views of fabled icon Uluru (Ayers Rock). Explore the World Heritage listed wilderness of Uluru-Kata Tjuta and discover some of the ancient creation stories of the land's traditional custodians. Exceptional cuisine celebrates a fusion of modern and local flavours whilst exclusive 'Red Centre' experiences and world-class service combine to deliver an unforgettable encounter with this spirited land.

### Longitude 131° - 150 words

Longitude 131° offers immersion in the Australian outback, a true sense of stillness and beauty in this desert landscape, rich in cultural heritage and timeless history. Luxury tented pavilions float over rust-red dunes where classic furnishings meld with indigenous textures to evoke a sanctuary of earthy elegance. A private glass wall yields unparalleled views of fabled icon Uluru (Ayers Rock). Explore the World Heritage listed wilderness of Uluru-Kata Tjuta and discover some of the ancient creation stories of the Anangu, the land's traditional custodians. Spend time exploring the diverse flora and fauna of the desert and come face to face with this irresistible land with the lodge's personally guided adventures. Enjoy an outback sundowner at the convivial open bar in the Dune House and experience unforgettable dining under a glittering canopy of stars at Table 131°. Exceptional cuisine celebrates a fusion of modern and local flavours whilst exclusive 'Red Centre' experiences and world-class service combine to deliver an unforgettable encounter with this spirited land.

## Longitude 131° - 200 words

Longitude 131° offers immersion in the Australian outback, a true sense of stillness and beauty in this desert landscape, rich in cultural heritage and history. Explore the World Heritage listed wilderness of Uluru-Kata Tjuṭa and discover some of the ancient creation stories of the Anangu, the land's traditional custodians. Spend time exploring the diverse flora and fauna of the desert and come face to face with this irresistible land with the lodge's personally guided adventures.

In the spirit of the original pioneers, guests stay in canopied pavilions that seem to float over the rust-red dunes. Luxuriously contemporised, today's explorers are cosseted from the elements in surrounds that favour refined comfort over ostentation. Classic furnishings meld with indigenous textures to evoke a sanctuary of earthy elegance. A private glass wall yields unparalleled views of fabled icon Uluru (Ayers Rock).

Exceptional cuisine celebrates a fusion of modern and local flavours. Enjoy an outback sundowner at the convivial open bar in the Dune House and dine under a glittering canopy of stars at Table 131°. Quieten to the night sounds of the desert and be mesmerised by the movement and songs of an ancient culture by firelight.

Timeless and enriching, Longitude 131° promises a transcendent connection with this spirited land.

## More Central Australia

Explore the spectacular geography and biodiversity of the central deserts and discover ancient landscapes, lush waterholes and desert plains amid the three giants of the Territory – Uluru, Kata Tjuṭa and Kings Canyon. Formerly known as Ayers Rock and now known by many non-indigenous Australians simply as 'The Rock', Uluru rises abruptly from the rust-red earth. One of the greatest natural features in the world, the 348-metre high sandstone monolith appears to change colour throughout the day; depending on weather conditions it can be purple, orange or pink and is nearly always a vibrant, deep red at sunrise or sunset.

Standing nearby and imposing a strong, resilient presence upon the landscape, are the 36 sacred domes of Kata Tjuṭa (previously known as The Olgas). A walk through the dramatic Walpa Gorge whilst learning of the region's remarkable geological history is an enlightening, must-do experience.

Also in the region is Kings Canyon, a spectacular mighty chasm cleaving deep into the earth. A trek to the rim is rewarded with breathtaking views across the rugged bluffs and gorges of Watarrka National Park. The canyon's towering rock walls shelter palm-filled crevices and pockets of lush green. A palm-fringed swimming hole is a surprising oasis in this desert landscape.

Some 450 kilometres away is Alice Springs, the famous outback town framed by ancient mountain ranges and endless plains, steeped in the stories of Afghan cameleers, flying doctors and plucky pioneers.

Uluru-Kata Tjuṭa National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage listing in two stages, initially in 1987 for its outstanding natural values and then in 1994 for its outstanding cultural values. Covering 1,325 square kilometres, Uluru-Kata Tjuṭa National Park is jointly managed by Parks Australia, a federal

government agency, and its Aboriginal custodians, Anangu, to whom ownership was officially granted in 1985. There is no direct English translation for Uluru (Ayers Rock), however, in local Anangu Pitjantjatjara language Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) means 'many heads'.

Anangu are the traditional owners of the Uluru region and custodians of one of the world's oldest living cultures, dating thousands of years, rich in story, dance and art. To more fully appreciate the park is to start to discover the Tjukurpa (creation stories, law and belief systems) of Anangu.

Rich in pioneering history, the landscape and features of the Red Centre tell the hard-luck stories of European glory hunters, success, avarice and failed expeditions. At Longitude 131°, each tented retreat is decorated with memorabilia that pays tribute to a pioneer or explorer, including William Gosse, the first European to reach Uluru, the ill-fated Bourke and Wills, and determined aviator EJ Connellan.

As its World Heritage listing details, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park contains distinctive desert fauna and many rare species of mammals, birds and reptiles. Although appearing flat and uninhabited, the desert around Longitude 131° is alive with undulating waves of red, rippled sand. Spinifex grass, mulga trees, desert she-oaks and other hardy plant species provide food and shelter for an abundance of wildlife. Honeyeaters feed from the bright flowers of grevillea, Red kangaroo or 'Malu' forage amongst the grasses and Desert goannas wait patiently in the shade of grass tussocks and rocks. Bush tucker, in the form of native animal and plant foods, may be found at different times of year. Most prized are the bright red quandongs, a flavoursome, and nutritious fruit, delicious as dessert!

## Baillie Lodges

Baillie Lodges is an Australian collection of intimate luxury lodges designed to blend with destinations of unique cultural and natural significance, appealing to the discerning global traveller. The celebrated portfolio of properties includes Capella Lodge on World Heritage listed Lord Howe Island, globally acclaimed Southern Ocean Lodge on Kangaroo Island and Longitude 131° overlooking fabled outback icon Uluru, in the spirited heart of Australia. Baillies Sydney, set in the heart of the historic Rocks precinct, is planned for opening in 2015. Combining standout locations with organic luxury, contemporary design, locally sourced cuisine and first-name service, together the lodges create a soul-inspiring experience of place. Baillie Lodges is Australian luxury travel defined.

## Luxury Lodges of Australia

Luxury Lodges of Australia is a collection of independent luxury lodges and camps offering unforgettable experiences in Australia's most inspiring and extraordinary locations. Capella, Longitude 131° and Southern Ocean Lodge are honoured amongst the 'first 15' founding lodge members of this prestigious collection designed to celebrate a new era of Australian luxury accommodation and adventure.