



# Mobility fact sheet



Longitude 131° is located at Uluru-Kata Tjuta in Australia's vast Red Centre surrounded by undulating sand dunes dotted with spinifex and desert oak trees. Luxury guest tents, the central Dune House hub and a range of outdoor lounging areas are all elevated over the desert landscape, a design measure that keeps guest areas cool but is also integral to the environmental sustainability of the property. In theory at least, the entire luxury camp could be moved or removed without leaving an impact on the natural environment.

A stay at Longitude 131° includes guided adventures around the region's incredible natural attractions, principally Uluru (formerly known as Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (The Olgas). Transport to and from each signature experience is via customised touring vehicles, and some walking is required as part of many of the small-group excursions. For elderly guests or those who experience temporary or ongoing mobility issues, some considered advance planning ensures a rewarding and comfortable stay in Australia's outback.

## Accommodation

Luxury guest tents at Longitude 131° are set above the ground, accessed via a short flight of stairs from gently winding pathways that link each of the sixteen accommodations to the Dune House, Spa Kinara, pool and Dune Top lounge area. Included is a wheelchair or mobility-accessible tent which is located close to the Dune House and features level ramp access to the restaurant, bar and reception. The accessible tent features a level bathroom with aids including grab rails and a barrier-free shower. A removeable shower chair is available on request. Additionally, guests with limited mobility may easily access the outdoor deck and daybed. A small ramp can also be fitted on request and allows guests in wheelchairs to manoeuvre over the doorframe. The accessible tent ('Harney') is best requested at the time of booking and has a fixed king bed. A rollaway bed may be added subject to availability.

The premium Dune Pavilion is accessed via an ascending pathway that leads to three steps to reach the front entrance. A handrail lines the steps, however, access would be difficult in a wheelchair. Once inside, the Dune Pavilion is on a single level, with even access to the outdoor terrace and into the bathrooms. Oversized showers are accessible for wheelchairs or those with limited mobility.

## Access to guest registration areas

### The Dune House

The Dune House is the central facility home to the restaurant, bar, lounge area, outdoor terrace and reception. The area is on one level with access to outdoor areas via swing doors. Guests with limited mobility may arrive and depart the Dune House via a side entrance where a guest buggy can transfer them to the tour vehicle departure point.

### Pool

The main pool at Longitude 131° is bordered by a wooden deck area with integrated day beds and adjacent individual loungers, and the pool itself is accessed via several steps with a handrail. The plunge pool/spa at the Dune Top and in the Dune Pavilion are accessed via a larger, single step. None of the pools are equipped with lifts for access.



### Field of Light and Table 131°

Access to this outdoor evening activity is by a customised multi-seat touring vehicle in the company of the other guests staying at Longitude 131°. Several steps are at the bus entrance, which are lined with a handrail. To reach the Field of Light outdoor light exhibition, guests traverse a short distance from the carpark to the exhibition entrance. It is sandy underfoot and not accessible in a wheelchair. Guests may enjoy the colourful spectacle of the Field of Light exhibition from the entrance without navigating its sandy pathways.

At the conclusion of the Field of Light the bus transfers all guests to the outdoor dining experience Table 131°, where guests disembark the vehicle and follow a short sandy pathway to a raised dining platform. There are two steps with a handrail to one side to get onto and off the dining platform. Please note the toilet at Table 131° is not easily accessible for guests in wheelchairs or using mobility aids. Guests follow an eight-metre long soft sand pathway before reaching firmer ground and the ramp that leads to the toilet.

### Dune Top

The Dune Top lounge, bar and private dining area may be accessed by a ramp from the reception entrance. A step up is required to reach the platform.

### Dune Top Dining

Four private dining alcoves are accessed from the Dune Top. Two pods are accessed on the same level platform, two pods are on a raised platform requiring a step up.

### Spa Kinara

There is a single step on the path leading to a swing door to access Spa Kinara. Longitude 131° therapists can tailor a treatment to suit guests' needs and comfort. For occupational health and safety reasons, Longitude 131° therapists and staff cannot physically assist guests, however, treatment tables can be lowered to accommodate transfer from a mobility aid to the table. The toilet and shower in Spa Kinara are not wheelchair accessible.

## Vehicle transfers

So as the Longitude 131° team can best plan the most appropriate vehicle for guest transfers and small-group touring, it is important that guests travelling with mobility aids provide advance notice of the aid's dimensions including its measurements, weight and purpose. Some larger aids may require a private transfer and/or additional charges. Please advise the reservations team at the time of booking.

The fleet of touring vehicles at Longitude 131° offers generous seating space but does not include vehicles equipped with ramps or lifts. In addition, guests on shared signature tours operated by Longitude 131° need to be able to step up into the lodge touring vehicles.

Wheelchairs and aids need to be folded and stored in the boot. Guests and their travel companion need to be willing and able to assist with lifting themselves and any equipment in and out of vehicles.

Private touring is recommended for guests with limited mobility. A private guide can provide more assistance on tours, and the pace may be regulated to suit specific guest needs.

For guests who need to use a wheelchair, private touring is essential. Many guests at Longitude 131° engage Outback Tour Services, a specialist outback tour operator based in Alice Springs. Outback Tour Services can provide a modern, purposebuilt, disability access vehicle which can accommodate one passenger who can remain in their wheelchair. Additional charges apply.

**For more information and to make a booking**, please visit [outbacktourservices.com.au](https://www.outbacktourservices.com.au) or call (08) 8950 9911 or international +61 8 8950 9911. These arrangements are the responsibility of the guest or travel agent; please notify the Baillie Lodges reservations team so as they can plan in advance.



# Experiencing Uluru and Kata Tjuta

## Touring in the National Park

Many touring locations around Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park are not accessible to regular wheelchairs due to uneven soil or sandy surfaces. It is important to note that a carer or travel companion may be required to assist guests with limited mobility around some sections of Uluru which include longer walks and uneven surfaces underfoot, with warm temperatures also a consideration. Wheelchair access is available on the Mala Walk and the Mutitjulu Waterhole. Access facilities are also available at the Cultural Centre and Uluru Sunset viewing area. For occupational health and safety reasons, Longitude 131° guides and staff cannot physically assist guests, however, will offer advice on the most suitable access paths.

## Specific Touring Access

### Walpa Gorge at Kata Tjuta

Wheelchairs cannot access the gorge itself as the path is uneven, follows a steady incline and is strewn with small rocks. There are no built in hand rails along this walk. The optimal experience of Kata Tjuta for guests with limited mobility is from the Dune Viewing platform, which is magnificent at sunrise or sunset and accessed via a steadily ascending path. Two stairs access the viewing platform deck.

### Mala Walk at Uluru

Soft sand covers pathways along this two-kilometre walk. Temperatures are often warm during the afternoon. Elderly guests and those in wheelchairs or with walking aids may find it challenging.

### Mutitjulu Waterhole at Uluru

This one-kilometre round trip walk includes sections accessible to guests in wheelchairs. The walk commences at the car park where the ground is unsealed so guests may find it challenging to navigate. Once on the path, the surface is more solid and features sections of metal walkway, however, there are some short sections of soft sand.

### Mutitjulu Waterhole and Meander

The full Mutitjulu Meander signature experience is around three kilometres to the Kuniya Piti pick up point. The path is mostly compacted earth and is reasonably easy to navigate. The last 800 metres is, however, made up of very soft sand.

### Uluru Sunset

While the carpark for the sunset views of Uluru is sealed, the path to the Longitude 131° viewing area is soft sand. The Longitude 131° pop-up bar is located halfway along the sandy path, offering the best views of Uluru at sunset and an exclusive space to enjoy canapés and drinks. This area is not wheelchair-accessible, however, staff serve sundowners to Longitude 131° guests at a point that suits them.