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EXPLORE THE LARAPINTA TRAIL & PARTJIMA FESTIVAL ITINERARY

Dates: 8-13 April 2022

Cost: \$3100pp (flights not included)

The Must Know:

The Larapinta Explorer package is a five night / six day package. The actual trekking component of this adventure is three nights / four days and will cover 40km in distance.

This package was specifically designed for those of us who are a little older, a little slower or too time poor to train. This package is aimed at those who want to experience everything Larapinta has to offer, without the austerity and physical demands of a full or half trek.

With this package, you will stay at our Eco-Campsite enjoying the comforts of the camp, with even greater time to rest and relax as you embrace your surroundings. Most importantly, this package comes without the demands of hilly and rocky sections.

On this package you will explore the West MacDonnell Ranges that inspired Albert Namatjira's award winning artwork. You will explore the culture, the history, the dreamtime and explore its wonders.

On this adventure we trek from the far western edge of the Larapinta Trail, heading east. We trek in this direction for two main reasons; firstly comfort - we walk with the afternoon sun at our backs, not in our faces, as the desert sun can be extreme. Secondly the majority of the traffic on the Larapinta Trail will be **Day 1: arrival in Alice Springs**. You will be met by a local team member at the Alice Springs Airport and transferred to the Hilton Hotel, where you can spend the afternoon relaxing and meeting your fellow explorers. On this afternoon you'll also receive the safety brief for your adventure. This is an opportunity to ask your Guide any questions you may have. The time and location of this brief will be detailed upon your arrival. If you choose to drive to Alice Springs, you are asked to be at the Hilton Hotel no later than 4pm. The evening will be free to visit the Partjima Festival.

Day 2: After a complimentary buffet breakfast, you will be transported towards the western end of the Larapinta Trail. We stop at Ormiston Gorge for a coffee prior to completing the "Pound Walk".

This walk is 9km in distance and is a gentle introduction to the trail. We take our time on this journey, stopping at the lookout which stands above the pound, then make a gentle descent into the pound, passing through the gorge. Within the gorge, you will view the large ochre cliffs that are over 2.2 billion years old. Should you wish to, you can walk a gentle incline to another lookout, this one into the Gorge.

After the walk we can grab a drink and/or a snack at the local café, before being transferred to our eco-camp situated nearby. It's here that your individual four-person sized tent awaits, as does a hot shower and toilet.

Day 3: Today is a favourite of the team. We make our way by vehicle to Redbank Gorge, situated at the western end of the Larapinta Trail. From Redbank we make the easy 11km walk to



Rocky Bar Gap. On this section of the trail we have views of Mount Sonder, the highest mountain on the Larapinta Trail and the fourth largest in the Northern Territory. We will be transported back to the campsite to relax with the group, taking in the stunning sunset over the mountains surrounding this area.

Day 4: Today is another shorter day with only 9km of walking from Finke River to Ormiston Gorge, where once again we'll have spectacular views of Mount Sonder albeit from a more profiled angle. Today is an easy day which affords you time to be amongst the hills with time to rest, swim and relax at the Gorge, visit the café located in this area and at camp.

Day 5: Your final day of walking will see you pack up camp prior to departing by vehicle to Simpson's Gap, an indigenous site of significance. You will make a gentle climb of 200m in elevation to Hat Hill Saddle, prior to making the gentle descent to Wallaby Gap where your vehicle awaits. Your team meets you at Wallaby Gap to transport you back to the Hilton Hotel, where it's time to celebrate your achievement. Today's walk is 11km in distance. Time to take in the Parrtjima Festival and all its activities.

Day 6: Today is the day that you are free to depart Alice Springs. Having once again consumed a complimentary buffet breakfast, the team will transport you to the Alice Springs Airport ready for departure. If you are staying on in Alice Springs, the team is able to provide transport to your next local travel provider.

Other things to consider if staying longer in Alice Springs

A Balloon Flight with Outback Ballooning. Take a sunrise flight over the desert and see where you walked from the skies.

We also recommend that you visit the Museum of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Mega Fauna, the Art Gallery "Bindi" in Elder Ave. Bindi supports people with special needs with funds from the sale of their impressive range of art works.

Should you want a wildlife fix, check out Desert Park.

Maybe you want to chill at one of the local café's, we recommend "Stumps" on the main round-a-bout or the café "Number 27" which is just off the Todd Mall.

About Parrtjima Festival:

Parrtjima is the meeting place where old meets new. It is the only authentic Aboriginal light festival of it's kind, showcasing the oldest continuous culture on earth through the newest technology – all on the 300-million-year-old natural canvas of the MacDonnell Ranges in Central Australia. Experience Parrtjima, and watch the desert come alive with new artworks, light shows and a program of performances, interactive workshops, music, films and talks.

**Contact 123Travel for booking form and further information.
As this tour is for a max of just 12 guests we suggest locking
in your spot early.**