

Wattletree Garden Tours
Northern Territory
Winter 2024



*Darwin, Kakadu, Alice Springs, Kings Canyon and Uluru.
A little bit of something for everyone!*



Join Brian Sams
& Wattletree Garden Tours
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Tour highlights

- Darwin Sunset cruise
- Aboriginal rock art with local guide
- Alice Springs and Darwin Botanical gardens
- Uluru by sunset
- Kakadu for 3 nights
- MacDonnell Ranges
- Safe beautiful accommodation in all locations
- Arnhem Land visit with local guides
- Private Darwin gardens
- Kings Canyon Resort
- Litchfield National park visit
- Fully escorted and organised

Brian Sams is a Toowoomba based horticulturist involved in running gardening workshops, consultation, leading garden based tours. Brian has been leading garden tours overseas and within Australia since 2006.

Why? He loves it!

Day 1 Travel to Darwin - Saturday 27/7/24 D

Fly into Darwin to meet the group with suggested flights to be advised. We will do a brief orientation tour before checking in to our hotel. Meet for welcome dinner in nearby restaurant.

Mantra Pandanus Hotel for 3 nights

Day 2 Darwin exploring – Sunday 28/7 B, MT, D

Today our first visit will be to Allora Gardens Nursery where well known local nurserywoman Estelle Cornell will show us around her large wholesale and retail nursery before we have morning tea on site. We will then head back into Darwin to visit the Darwin Botanical Gardens which is home to some interesting tropical plants from the area and similar tropical areas of the world. Our lunch stop will be the Nightcliff markets which has a good range of food stalls as well as local handicrafts. Next stop is MAGNT – the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory a modern and interesting collection. We will then head back to the hotel before our Sunset dinner cruise on Darwin Harbour. Should be a good Darwin day!

Day 3 Darwin to Litchfield National Park - Monday 29/7 B, L

This morning we will head south of Darwin to visit the Litchfield National Park to visit the most scenic spots including walking to see the Florence and Wangi Falls and the cascades at Buley Rockhole. We will have a picnic style lunch at the Falls. Also see the huge termite mounds and local flora. On our way back to Darwin we will call in at Anthill Gardens in Berry Springs which is a private garden with plants well suited to the local area. We will call into the Berry Springs Tavern for dinner on the way back to the hotel (own expense).

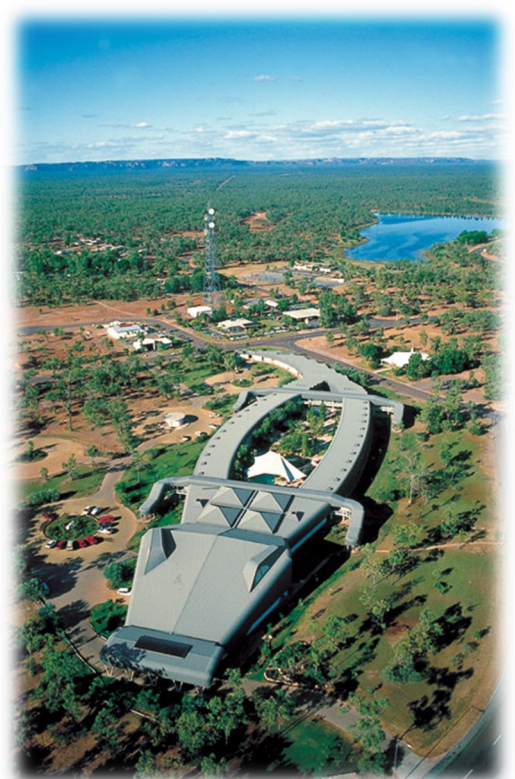
Day 4 Darwin to Kakadu Tuesday 30/7 B, L, D

Depart Darwin and travel to Kakadu National Park with a few stops along the way including Humpty Doo for look around and to see the iconic pub. We will find a spot along the way for a picnic lunch before arriving in Jabiru. We will then visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre and then do a cruise on the Yellow Water Billabong to see a little of the local area and fauna which might include crocodiles and water buffalo. Later head back to our hotel in Jabiru and then meet for our welcome dinner in the resort.

Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel (in Jabiru) for 3 nights—pictured right

Day 5 Kakadu – Arnhem Land - Wednesday 31/ B, L

Today we join a local company for a 4 Wheel Drive journey into Arnhem Land and the Mikkinj Valley. We will have a local guide who will take us across Cahills crossing on the Alligator River to one of the most remote regions in Australia. We will visit some ancient rock art sites and learn a little about the traditional aboriginal knowledge. We will also visit the Injalak Arts and Crafts Centre and meet some of the local artists. Lunch today is at the Inkiyu Billabong which is in the beautiful Mikini Valley.





Day 6 Kakadu - Thursday 1/8 B, L

This morning we will head out of Jabiru to take the Guluyambi River cruise on the East Alligator River. Looks like a beautiful spot and we will have a local guide to spot wildlife and talk about the area. We will have a picnic style lunch in Kakadu today. This afternoon is free for you to relax and explore the Jabiru. Later meet to visit Ubirr for a stunning sunset overlooking the Nadab floodplains.

Day 7 Kakadu to Darwin to Alice Springs - Friday 2/8 B, D

This morning we will depart the hotel at around 9am to return to Darwin. Along the way we will call into one of the iconic Northern Territory pubs for a lunch stop (own expense) before our onward flight to Alice Springs. Upon arrival we will transfer to the hotel and then a welcome dinner in the resort restaurant. Flight times tba.
Mercure Alice Springs Resort for 2 nights

Day 8 Alice Springs Exploring - Saturday 3/8 B, D

Today is a day to explore Alice Springs with first stop the Olive Pink botanical gardens for a self guided walk and chance to have morning tea in the on site café. We will then visit the Alice Springs Dessert Park home to many of the creatures living in the red centre. There is also a café on site that will be our lunch stop today. (own expense). After lunch we will do a tour of the main sites of Alice Springs including the School of the air and a visit for a guided walk in the Royal Flying Doctor museum. Later head back to our resort with dinner in the hotel.

Day 9 Alice Springs to Kings Canyon Resort - Sunday 4/8 B, L, D

Today we depart Alice Springs to head into the MacDonnell Ranges to see this remote part of Australia before heading to Kings Canyon. Lunch again will be a picnic style meal along the way. Later we will enjoy a Kungkas Can Cook Tasting Platter and bubbles for pre-dinner nibbles. Kungkas Can Cook is an Aboriginal catering company passionate about bush foods and is dedicated to utilising wild harvested produce from around the Central Desert Region and beyond. Dinner is in the resort restaurant.

Kings Canyon Resort for 2 nights

Day 10 Kings Canyon - Monday 5/8 B

Today is a day for exploring the local area or just relaxing. You may elect to take a helicopter flight over the area. If you want to do this we will need to book well in advance. One of the most popular attractions is to do the 6km Canyon rim walk where you may elect to descend into the Garden of Eden (or if the stairs look too daunting continue around the Canyon rim back to the resort). This evening there are a number of optional dinner activities offered by the resort or you may elect a more casual evening at leisure.

Day 11 Kings Canyon to Uluru - Tuesday 6/8 B, D

This morning we will depart the resort to drive to Uluru. We have around 300km to cover so will our lunch stop will be in Yulara (own expense) before heading out to view Uluru nearby. You will have the option of a couple of short walks – Kuniya and Mutijulu Waterhole. This afternoon after 3pm we will check into our hotel. At sunset we will be head out to a good spot and set up for sunset nibbles and sparkling wine to see the sunset over Uluru. Later meet for our dinner in the resort.

Dessert Gardens Resort for 3 nights

Day 12 Uluru - Wednesday 7/8 B, L

This morning we will be out early to see the sun rise over the red centre before returning to the hotel for breakfast. Later return to undertake the Uluru base tour and a picnic lunch in the local area. The rest of the day is at leisure. We will meet later to see the famous Field of Lights installation with drinks and canapes.

Day 13 Uluru - Thursday 8/8 B, D

This morning we will travel to see Kata Tjuta (the Olgas). We will enjoy panoramic views of the southern side of the 36 domes of this interesting geological formation. We will then arrive at Walpa Gorge where you can take a scenic walk though the Gorge and rock formations. We will then return to the resort for a free afternoon to relax or undertake other activities. Later we will meet for our farewell dinner in the resort.

Day 14 Uluru to home ports - Friday 9/8 B

After breakfast we will transfer to the Ayres Rock airport for our flights east. Flight likely to be around 1pm but will be advised.

Our Northern Territory Coach company

We will use a local company who prefer to operate smaller tours using a 28 seat coach with luggage trailer. Our group size will be limited to 22 to ensure a comfortable journey.



Quality matters!

- ⇒ Good well located hotels with all 2 or 3 night stops
- ⇒ Experienced tour guide and specialist local coach company
- ⇒ The food will showcase some of the local culture and cuisine.
- ⇒ We always seem to have a wonderful, friendly & fun group to travel with!

Pricing Details

Full tour price including all land	\$8995.00
Tour deposit—deductible from final tour price	\$ 500.00
Single supplement - if you wish to twin share please let us know and we will put you in contact with others who are keen to share.	\$3200.00

Important dates

1. Deposit – Payable asap to secure a place as seats are limited to 22, please complete booking form.
2. Final payment 60 days before departure

The tour prices includes:

- Good hotel accommodation
- Internal exclusive coach travel with experience local company and driver/guide
- Entry to all sightseeing, national parks and gardens as detailed in itinerary
- Quality meals listed in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner MT = morning tea) - 27 in total
- Accompanied all the way with garden guide – Brian Sams
- Taxes where appropriate (but subject to change based on prevailing rates)
- Airport transfers (for whole group only—other arrangements to be made as required)

The tour price excludes:

- Air fares
- All items not stated as included
- Travel insurance. Please discuss if you need help to organize.

Full terms and conditions are on the booking form.



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