

GROSS FAMILY DESERT ADVENTURE

10 - 16 APRIL 2012



GROSS FAMILY - 2012



TRIP IN BRIEF

The program commences in Alice Springs and we will travel to the old Lutheran mission town of Hermannsburg 120 kilometres from Alice Springs. The focus will be on interaction with local children under the leadership of Nicholas Williams, our young indigenous guide. The party will be offered a chance to learn, interact and play with the local children and with Western Arrernte elders.

On a field trip to Palm Valley the local Aranda kids will show tracking and bush tucker, hunting for witchetty grubs and honey ants, following tracks of lizards and kangaroos.

After Hermannsburg we will drive to our private camp in Into the Blue's at the base of Mt Sonder. This beautiful place will become the base from which we will walk and paint in the local area. This accesses some of the most spectacular areas of the Western Macdonell Ranges.

TUES	Pick up at your accomodation at in Alice Springs at 8 am. Briefing before leaving for Hermannsburg via Standley Chasm. Lunch in the Chasm and arrive in Hermannsburg. Set up camp in the historical precinct and commence our interactions with local kids and families
WED	Day trip to Palm Valley with local children and Nicholas Williams. Options for walking and swimming. The children will lead a session of tracking and bush tucker.
THU	Break camp and drive to Sonder Camp via Redbank Gorge. Lunch and paint and possibly swim in this magnificent gorge. Continue to camp for a night around the fire.
FRI	Drive to Ormiston Gorge. Options for walking, painting swimming.
SAT	Walk Mt Sonder [7 hour walk] It would be possible to split the party such that a group stay at camp if they felt the walk was beyond them.
SUN	Easy day around camp. Gentle off track walk from camp exploring the local area.
MON	Break camp and return to Alice Springs via Ochre Pits and Simpsons Gap. Delivered to your accomodation by 2pm.

TOTAL COST OF \$1700 PER PERSON INCLUDES

- 2 nights in the old Lutheran mission town of Hermannsburg, all camping equipment provided.
- 4 nights remote camp at the Mt Sonder camp
- Licensed guided walk with lead guide, support vehicle & camp manager/driver.
- All cooked breakfasts, morning & afternoon teas, lunches, dinners, snacks on the track.
- Indigenous interactions with children and Western Arrernte Traditional Owners
- First aid, satellite phones, all National Park fees etc.

EXCLUSIONS:

- airfares - flight options can be viewed on the website
- accomodation in Alice Springs

A non-refundable deposit of \$600 will secure your your place.
ALL BOOKING AND FURTHER INFORMATION AT
www.intotheblue.com.au **0414 929768**

DESERT FAMILIES - 2012

OVERALL

Please note that the itinerary may change due to weather, aboriginal cultural imperatives or simply to better suit the objectives of the group.

THE CONCEPT

This concept is designed for families who are seeking to introduce both their children and themselves to a part of Australia that is often conveniently forgotten. The country that we will visit is absolutely stunning and the very process of walking, playing and swimming together is a delight. Meeting and playing with aboriginal children will be an experience that will hopefully never be forgotten.

ABORIGINAL

The children of Hermannsburg will be your hosts in this program, charged with the responsibility of introducing your children and you to the secrets of tracking and bush tucker.

CAMP LIFE

The Hermannsburg camp will be in tents with sleeping bags provided. All camping gear is supplied. You will be expected to share some tasks around the camp such as rolling your sleeping bag etc. There are flush toilets and limited showers.

CLIMATE

Expect cool nights and warm to hot, clear days. This is generally a magnificent time of the year in the Australian desert with everything that crawls soundly asleep and no or few flies.

ALCOHOL

Hermannsburg is an alcohol free environment.

WHAT TO BRING

A printable equipment and clothing list is provided on the website under the specific journey notes.

FLIGHTS & ACCOMMODATION

A printable flights and information list is provided on the website under the specific journey notes.

UPON BOOKING

A representative of the Into the Blue Creative Walks shall call you upon booking. Final payment is due one month before your departure. Please don't hesitate to call with any questions you might have.