

# FATHERS & SONS

The ILPURLA  
Trail

8 - 13 July 2012



# FATHERS & SONS - 2012

The **ILPURLA TRAIL** is a new walking experience that takes you deep into “another world” of wilderness, desert and Western Arrentre culture. The trail crosses over some of the most stunning landscape in Central Australia with the added appeal of traversing “country” that maintains the living pulse of it’s original inhabitants, the Western Arrentre people. The “country” is alive with their memories, spirits and presence. The **ILPURLA TRAIL** abounds with beautiful gorges and endless views that finally culminate in the extraordinary Palm Valley after an extraordinary supported trek. **THERE ARE NO OTHER GROUPS AROUND. THIS INCREDIBLE WORLD IS PRIVATE TO OUR SMALL GROUP.**

The landscape of the **ILPURLA TRAIL** differs from the famous **LARAPINTA TRAIL** that runs parallel some 40 kilometers away to the north. The Larapinta’s hard quartzite is replaced by the Ilpurla’s soft red sandstone. Rolling hills, plains and desert oak country stand in stark contrast to the more mountainous country of the Larapinta. Unlike the Larapinta Trail, we are alone in deep desert country. By far the biggest difference, however, is that you will meet and relate to Aboriginal people in their homelands or “on country”. While Into the Blue Creative Walks operates the practical running of the walk, it’s power and energy comes from the the aboriginal guides and people you will meet along the way as well from the extraordinarily beautiful landscape.

The Ilpurla Trail takes you into “another world”, a place where you are invited to be quiet, to listen and to learn. It is a place of deep significance and it is in that spirit that you are invited to enter, to enter with a pilgrim’s heart.

Sun	Pick up at your accomodation and depart for Tjilpa Camp via the aboriginal community of Hermannsburg. Explore historical precinct and enjoy lunch and apple strudel. Arrive at the Tjilpa Camp with separate women’s and mens business with the Malbunka family. Evening meal at camp with the family. <b>Easy walking to sacred sites - 2 hours for the men, 20 min for women</b>
Mon	Depart after a smoking ceremony for the Arkaba Camp via Tjilpa Valley. Lunch in a sheltered ravine before ascending into our first taste of the Krickhauff Ranges before descending to our camp amongst under an arkaba - <i>desert oak</i> - tree. <b>Easy/medium grade walking over 6 to 7 hours with frequent stops</b>
Tue	Depart upstream along Gilbert Springs Creek. Ascend to the No Man’s Land with views of Mt Sonder, Tnorala and the distant MacDonell Ranges. <b>Medium grade walking over 6 to 7 hours with frequent stops. Rocky walk up creek with frequent boulders.</b>
Wed	Continue our ascent to the peak of the range before winding through ridges and creek lines, arriving at the remote Perentie Waterhole Camp. <b>Medium grade walking over 6 to 7 hours with frequent stops.</b>
Thu	Break camp for a stunning walk that reveals an ancient world of secret caves held in an elevated valley. Descend into the Palm Paddock with distant views of pagodas and ranges. Camp at the Art Camp. <b>Medium grade walking over 7/8hours with frequent stops</b>
Fri	Early morning departure. Trek across into the Palm Valley National Park before ascending into the back of the majestic Palm Valley, one of Central Australia’s most extraordinary places. The vehicle will be waiting to transfer us back to Alice Springs by around 7 pm. <b>Easy/medium grade walking over 6 to 7 hours with frequent stops</b>

## TOTAL COST OF \$2290 INCLUDES

### INCLUSIONS

- 5 nights desert camp under the stars with all camping equipment provided.
- Visit to the old Lutheran Missionary town of Hermannsburg.
- All coach transport to and Alice Springs.
- Ilpurla Trail walk with cultural guide, operations guide & camp manager.
- All cooked breakfasts, morning & afternoon teas, lunches, dinners, snacks on the track.
- Private camps and indigenous interactions.
- First aid, satellite phones, all National Park fees etc.
- Surprises that you will just have to take my word for.

### EXCLUSIONS:

- airfares - flight options can be viewed on the website
- accomodation in Alice Springs - suggested accomodation at Chifley Alice Springs Resort must be personally booked.

**A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$600 WILL SECURE YOUR BOOKING. ALL TRIP NOTES AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE**  
[www.intotheblue.com.au](http://www.intotheblue.com.au)  
 or call 0414 929768

## **OVERALL**

**Into the Blue** designs your itinerary around the capacity and objectives of the group. The itinerary seeks to blend elements such as indigenous culture, your workshop, meditation and interpretative guiding within the context of a walking journey. Please note that the itinerary may change due to weather, aboriginal cultural imperatives or simply to better suit the objectives of the group.

## **ABORIGINAL**

The aboriginal interactions are a feature of Into the Blue programs. Meaningful and personal interaction with one of Central Australia's most articulate and passionate indigenous advocates is a profound highlight of the trip.

## **FITNESS & TRAINING**

The walking component of this journey allows you to feel and contemplate the landscape around you. Each day on the track involves between 7 and 8 hours walking. The adventure is graded moderate, requiring a *good level* of aerobic fitness. Please contact Into the Blue to discuss any fitness issues. You will carry a simple day pack that includes water, jacket, lunch, camera etc.

## **VEHICLE SUPPORTED CAMPS AND REMOTE CAMPS**

Our camps are divided into vehicle-supported - *Tjilpa and Arkaba* - and remote camps - *No Man's Land, Perentie and the Art Camp*. All equipment, food and water are provided at each. As the vehicle is not with us in the remote camps you will carry spare underwear and silk inner sheet in your day pack. You will be expected to share some tasks around the camp such as rolling your sleeping bag etc.

## **CLIMATE**

Expect cool nights and warm, 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.

## **WHAT TO BRING**

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

## **ALCOHOL**

This is an alcohol free walk as we pass through homelands upon which alcohol is not permitted.

## **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 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.

