

Journey to the Heart

Photography

6 - 26 October 2012



a photographic and cultural journey into the heart of Australia with Nick Rains

Journey to the Heart - Itinerary

Journey to the Heart is not just a photographic expedition. Great photography needs to be informed by understanding, time and compassion for it not to be the mere taking of snapshots. Over three weeks *Journey to the Heart* travels from the iconic Sydney Opera House to Uluru via some of Australia's most powerful physical and cultural landscapes.



The photographic framework is established on a two day intensive workshop in the Blue Mountains with award winning photographer Nick Rains. After the intensive we set off west through the Blue Mountains to the outback plains. Then onto the bizarre moonscapes of the Mungo National Park and the Kinchega National Park; a world of wool-sheds, rivers, old towns and endless horizons. *Stage 1* of the journey concludes in the fabulous *Silver City* of Broken Hill. A local photographer joins us to explain the nuances of outback light as we visit the historic Silverton and the industrial and retro architecture of Broken Hill.

Stage 2 of the journey travels through some extraordinary variety of country. Into the Flinders Ranges; up the Oodnadatta Track to Marree from where Lake Eyre is explored for a day. Then to the Pink Roadhouse at Oodnadatta. The Painted Desert is visited in early morning light before arriving at the opal mining town of Coober Pedy with its underground hotels and mullock heaps. From Coober Pedy a wonderful long drive takes us to Alice Springs to commence *Stage 3*. A day trip explores the spectacular West Macdonell Ranges before Nick Rains rejoins the group

In Alice for the fascinating final section. We spend two night in the old Aboriginal Mission town of Hermannsburg and then onto Palm Valley and Kings Canyon. Journeys end is the iconic Uluru.

Not just a photography trip

A fascinating story emerges along this journey. The European story is underpinned by the Aboriginal one which comes increasingly to the fore after Lake Mungo, where the world's oldest formal burials are found. Our stay in Hermannsburg is full of delightful interactions with the wonderful Western Arrernte people.



The Oodnadatta Track follows the old Ghan Train line which in turn followed the exploration of John McDougall Stuart. The mining towns of Broken Hill and Coober Pedy contain a fascinating industrial history.

The journey will reveal the magic that is unique to Australia. From the infinite space of the horizon that drops to your bootstraps; the majestic Blue Mountains; the soft colours of the Flinders; the gibbers of the Moon Plain; the psychedelic colours of the Painted Desert; the quartzite outcrops of the Macdonell Ranges before the sandstone ranges of Palm Valley and Kings Canyon. Then there is the destination. One of the icons of the world, Uluru.

The soft light of mornings and evenings become the predominant photography time with days spent in travel and exploration. A comfortable 4WD bus allows you to work on your images as you travel. Laptops and camera can be recharged at night. Predominantly easy travel days are broken with two-night stays in Broken Hill, Alice Springs, Hermannsburg, Kings Canyon and Uluru.

Accommodation will be in hotels, motels, shearer's quarters and even some nights under the stars in swags. Food will be nutritious and tasty with all requirements catered for. This journey is well beyond a simple photography trip. In some ways photography becomes the device towards understanding and appreciation of the diverse and complex world that is Australia.

Journey to the Heart - Itinerary

DAY	ACTIVITIES	HIGHLIGHTS
Fri	A complimentary evening with photographer Nick Rains at Sydney Opera House and then dinner with the tour group	Opera House - Harbour Bridge
1	8am pick up at your accommodation. Visit the Sydney Opera House to capture the early light. Drive to Katoomba to commence the intensive 2-day workshop.	Opera House - Harbour Bridge
2	Workshop continues with live shoots amongst the waterfalls and cliffs of the World Heritage Blue Mountains.	Blue Mountains World Heritage
3	Early shoot and depart accommodation for morning tea in the Megalong Valley. Travel past the old towns of Bathurst and Milthorpe to the bushranger country of Forbes	Megalong - Bathurst - Milthorpe
4	Depart for Hay across the endless Hay Plain with its endless horizons. Visit the Shearers Museum. The township itself has excellent examples of colonial architecture.	Outback landscape, Hay township
5	Depart for Lake Mungo National Park. Capture sunset across the dunes under the care of aboriginal guides.	Dune of Mungo - Wool-sheds
6	Return to the lake for the morning light and then onto Kinchega National Park with its lake and magnificent woolshed.	Kinchega - Wool-sheds - lake
7	Travel to Broken Hill and a workshop with a local photographer to assist in the collation of images. Evening at the Living Sculptures.	Darling River - Living Sculptures
8	Explore nearby Silverton in the early morning. Return for a self guided history walk through the town. Evening shoot over the BHP mines that looms above the town.	Silverton - mines - Broken Hill
9	Rest/travel day where we get to the Flinders Ranges, with plenty of opportunities to stop and photograph ruins and landscape along the way.	Townships - Outback landscape
10	Early start to the old Ghan town of Marree via beautiful Blinman. We cut across the Flinders Ranges where overhead light can enhance shooting of the gorges.	Flinders - landscape - Blinman
11	From Marree we will spend a day in Lake Eyre with an optional flyover if you wish to charter a plain.	Marree - Lake Eyre
12	Early start to our camp at Archaringa Station past Oodnadatta. Explore the amazing mound springs that bubble up from the ground as we travel past the one pub town of Leigh Creek.	Mound springs - Ghan relics - Oodnadatta Pink Roadhouse
13	Leave before breakfast to the Painted Desert with its dazzling colors. After breakfast travel to Coober Pedy and the underground hotel. Visit a mine and then enjoy shooting the town as night falls.	Painted Desert - Coober Pedy mines and landscape
14	Rest day as we drive to Alice Springs after a stopping for a shoot in The Breakaways, a striking & unique example of arid scenery.	The Breakaways - landscape
15	Day trip from Alice Springs to the West Macdonell Ranges and some of Australia most stunning scenery including Ormiston Gorge, Standley Chasm and Mt Sonder.	Ormiston Gorge - Standley Chasm
16	Joined by Nick Rains as we depart Alice Springs for Hermannsburg. Relax around the old Historical Precinct for the rest of the day and enjoy conversation with the local Arrernte people.	Hermannsburg Historical Precinct - portraits with local Arrernte people
17	A day in Palm Valley with Traditional Owners. A spectacular day of desert palms and pools of water in a sandstone gorge.	Palm Valley - Finke River
18	Depart for Kings Canyon and arrive for a late afternoon shoot of the spectacular landforms.	Kings Canyon - Tnorala
19	Morning in the canyon before departing for the Uluru. Evening shoot as the sun sets over Uluru.	Landscape - sunset over Uluru
20	Explore the Uluru and Kata Tjuta with <i>Anangu</i> people. Evening celebration over dinner at our accommodation.	Uluru - Kata Tjuta
21	Last morning shoot before transfers to the airport and your journey home.	landscape - sunrise over Uluru

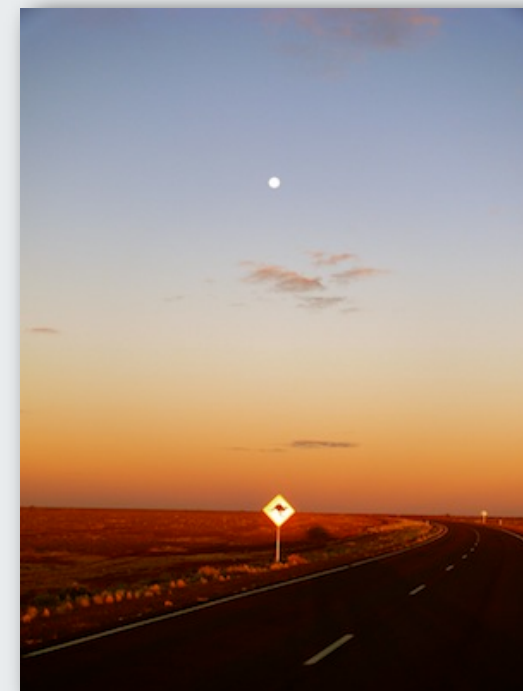
Journey to the Heart - Costs, Inclusions and Exclusions

INCLUSIONS

- 20 nights accommodation in hotels, motels, shearers quarters and some nights under the stars in the most remote places.
- all camping equipment provided.
- All coach transport from Sydney accommodation to the Uluru.
- Blue Mountains intensive photographic workshop, Broken Hill workshop, Alice to Uluru workshop.
- Photographic notes to accompany journey.
- Licensed guide, bus driver and host.
- All cooked breakfasts, morning & afternoon teas, lunches, dinners, snacks on the track. [except evening meals as per Exclusions]
- All park entrance fees
- Indigenous interactions at Hermannsburg, Kings Canyon and Uluru.
- Guided Lake Mungo Aboriginal tour.
- First aid, satellite phones, all National Park fees etc.
- Back up support vehicle with purpose built catering and photographic support.
- Surprises that you will just have to take my word for.

EXCLUSIONS

- Airfares to Sydney and from Uluru
- alcohol
- evening meals in Katoomba, Broken Hill, Alice Springs, Uluru.



TOTAL COST OF \$7,900 INCLUDES

A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$1200 WILL SECURE YOUR BOOKING. ALL TRIP NOTES AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

www.intotheblue.com.au

or call 0414 929768