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Discover Downunder®

The Red Center Northern Territory, Australia

Focused on Feathers **Alice Springs 3 Days/2 Nights** (Extension to Ayers Rock available)

From **us\$1436** per person twin share 2 travelers
From **us\$935** per person twin share 4 travelers

Touring Season: 1 April – 8 June 2011

Day 1 **Alice Springs**

Transfer from Alice Springs Airport to your hotel.

Accom: Alice Springs **Crown Plaza Alice Springs**

2 nts



Located 1.5km from the town center and 15km from the airport. All rooms feature balconies, color televisions, tea and coffee making facilities, mini-bars, hair dryers, STD/ISD direct-dial telephones, voice mail and modem connection, irons and ironing boards. Property facilities include: Guest laundry, valet service, outdoor pool, sauna, health/fitness center, high-speed internet.

Afternoon - Alice Springs and Surrounds

In the afternoon with your private guide, visit Emily and Jessie Gaps providing a great introduction to the Central Australia region. Both are excellent sites for desert mountain specialties such as the Little Woodswallow and Grey-headed Honeyeater. These areas are also important Aboriginal cultural sites for caterpillar and emu dreamings.

Then it is on to Simpson's Gap National Park to look for the Grey Falcon, Mulga Parrot, Golden-backed Honeyeater, Turquoise Fairy-wren, Rufous-crowned Emu-wren, Pied Butcherbird, Crested Bellbird, Zebra Finch, Painted Firetail and the elusive Dusky Grasswren. Our visit will be timed with the hope of seeing the Black-flanked Rock Wallaby colony and Simpson's Gap resident Peregrine Falcons.

Return to Alice Springs and your hotel.

Day 2 Full Day - Alice Springs and Alice Springs Desert Park

A very early morning departure for today's birding. Greet the dawn at a beautiful mature spinifex grassland site south of Alice Springs in search of the elusive Rufous-crowned Emu-wren, Spinifex Bird and *Dusky Grasswren. These birds are challenging, but at the top of every birder's Central Australian bucket list!

*dependent on weather conditions



Late morning visit the Olive Pink Botanic Garden, a delightful historic native garden which is an excellent site for the Western Bowerbird, Splendid Fairy Wren and occasionally the Grey Honeyeater.

In the afternoon spend two hours at the Alice Springs Desert Park, one of the world's finest bioparks. All animals and plants are from within 200km of Alice Springs—a fantastic showcase of desert biodiversity. See charismatic desert animals such as the Thorny Devil, Bilby and even the extinct-in-the-wild Mala.

The Alice Springs Desert Park is also a great place for birding with frequent sightings of the Spinifex Pigeon and Painted Finch and desirable rarities such as the Slaty-backed Thornbill and Grey Honeyeater.

Return to your hotel.

Lunch included.

Day 3 Morning – Alice Springs and Surrounds

An early morning departure for the Alice Springs Water Treatment Works to view large numbers of outback nomads such as the Red-necked Avocet, Pink-eared Duck, Black-winged Stilt and Black-tailed Native Hens.

Nearby chenopod habitat hosts the Crimson Chat, White-winged Fairy Wren and occasionally the Orange Chat. Raptors often include the Little Eagle and Black Falcon.

Return to your hotel.



Transfer to Alice Springs Airport

Included: Return transfers, accommodation 2 nights, Birdwatching Tour: private guide, transport, lunch on second day of tour and entry fee to Alice Springs Desert Park.

Additional: Any items not specifically mentioned under included.

Terms: Tour price is on a share twin basis and is per person. Trip extensions within Australia may be permitted. Prices and itinerary are subject to change and availability. \$200 deposit per person required to begin booking, cancellation fees apply, travel insurance is recommended. CST 2060400-40

Booking Conditions: Subject to availability and weather conditions.