

Australia Uncovered

G'day,

Of course, we only have enough room to share a snippet of the exciting happenings from across the ditch, so for further holiday inspiration for your clients,

Welcome to this month's edition of Australia Uncovered, showcasing what's new, what's hot and what's on around Australia over the coming months.

please visit Australia.com. This month, our Destination Profile is on Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory. With dramatically different seasons, the region is always

spectacularly beautiful but for those looking for dry weather, sunshine and moderate temperatures, the winter months are the perfect time to visit.

Tasmania's Cascades Female Factory tells "Her Story"

"Her Story" is a brand new experience for visitors to the UNESCO World Heritage listed [Cascades Female Factory](#) in South Hobart –Australia's most significant site associated with female convicts. Sitting in the shadow of Mount Wellington, The Cascades Female Factory once held up to 1,000 women, children and babies at a time. "Her Story" is a powerful theatrical portrayal of the difficult life these women experienced, and centres on Yard One, following the arrival of the transportation ship Frances Charlotte in 1833. This fascinating play vividly brings to life the conditions these women experienced and is staged daily at 11am.



Barossa's New Luxury Homestead Accommodation

A stunning new homestead accommodation in South Australia will open in July following a major refurbishment to the property which has previously featured in the McLeod's Daughters television series.

[Kingsford Homestead](#) will offer guests a luxurious boutique retreat in the famed Barossa wine region less than 1 hours' drive from Adelaide.

The homestead offers intimacy and exclusivity with just seven bedroom suites and a range of beautiful relaxation and dining areas including an underground cellar, a spa room and an all-weather pool house. Breakfast and dinner will be included in the room rates allowing guests to sample the regions sumptuous cuisine alongside award-winning local wines.

New gourmet touring experience in the Mornington Peninsula

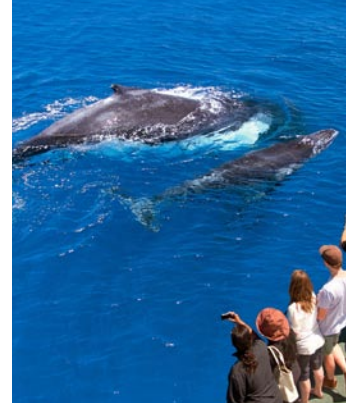


A new gourmet touring option has launched in the Mornington Peninsula, [MP Experience](#). Offering private tours for groups of up to eight people, MP Experience offers a personalised journey that showcases the best that the region has to offer. Led by an experienced local tour manager, guests will have exclusive opportunities to learn about the gourmet fare of the Peninsula, including a private tutored tasting with a winemaker, going behind the scenes at a strawberry farm and indulging in hand crafted artisan chocolates.

Whale Season is on!

Western Australia's annual whale season has begun with several early reports of whales along the coast. Visitors to Western Australia can witness the spectacle from a number of places along the Western Australian coastline from both the land and on the water.

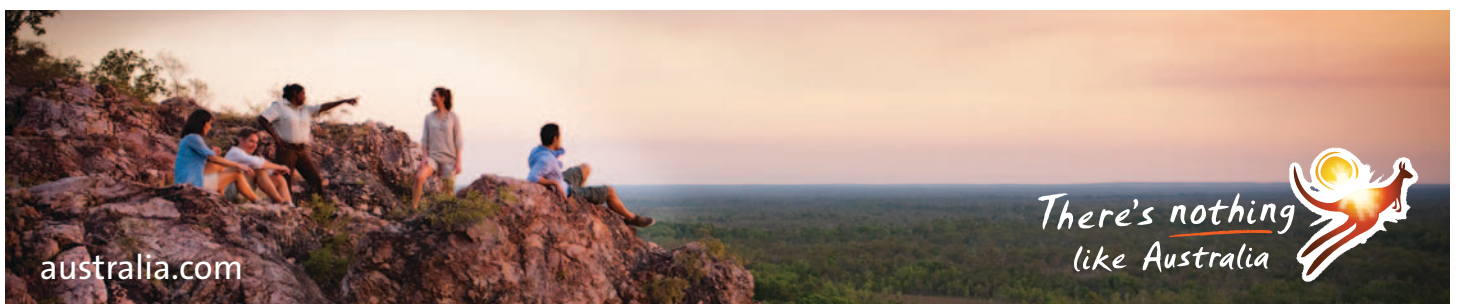
There are a number of whale watching companies throughout the state including [Absolute Ocean Charters](#) in Broome and [Ningaloo Reef Dreaming](#) who operate out of Perth. Visitors can enjoy the whale season until December when the whales will have continued south for the summer months



Queensland Art Gallery to exclusively host Portrait of Spain exhibition

From 21 July to 4 November 2012 the Queensland Art Gallery will host the exhibition, [Portrait of Spain: Masterpieces from the Prado](#). Featuring over 100 masterpieces, the exhibition will tell the story of the evolution of painting

in Spain over three and a half centuries. Exclusively curated for the Queensland Art Gallery by the Museo Nacional del Prado in Madrid, it will be the first exhibition from their collection ever to be shown in the Southern Hemisphere.



There's nothing like Australia

Australia Uncovered

PROFILE ON:

Kakadu, Northern Territory

The World-heritage listed Kakadu National Park is a region of vast and dramatic landscapes, flourishing vegetation and an array of wildlife. Kakadu is also steeped in Aboriginal culture making it a special place to discover the history, artwork and stories of this ancient race

The region is easily accessed from the city of Darwin, which is also well worth a visit. Darwin's northerly location gives the city a tropical climate with hot days and balmy evenings perfect for al fresco dining and partying the night away

either on the city's main street or waterfront. The Northern Territory is renowned for its striking Aboriginal art and Darwin, with its extensive galleries provides the perfect place to browse the works or shop for a special piece to take home.

Aboriginal Rock Art

Kakadu is one of the best places in Australia to view Ancient Aboriginal rock art with more than 5,000 art sites. Some of the most accessible and impressive examples of these artworks can be found at Ubirr in the South Alligator region of Kakadu. Ubirr features a number of 'natural galleries' that house a collection of rock paintings, some which date back thousands of years. Amongst the extensive and well preserved artworks, there are depictions of creation ancestors, people and a variety of fish and animals. Another fantastic rock art site is Nourlangie in the outlying

formation of the Arnhem Land escarpment. Here, visitors can discover Ancient Aboriginal stories and legends depicted in the fascinating rock art formations.



Ayal Aboriginal Tours

Ayal Aboriginal Tours showcase the natural and cultural wonders of Kakadu National Park with the expert guidance of local Aboriginal guide Victor Cooper.

Victor is a former park ranger who has a myriad of stories and knowledge to share about the spectacular rock art, bush tucker and the floodplain country.

Victor's tours are small-group giving guests an intimate and personalised insight into the region and its indigenous history.

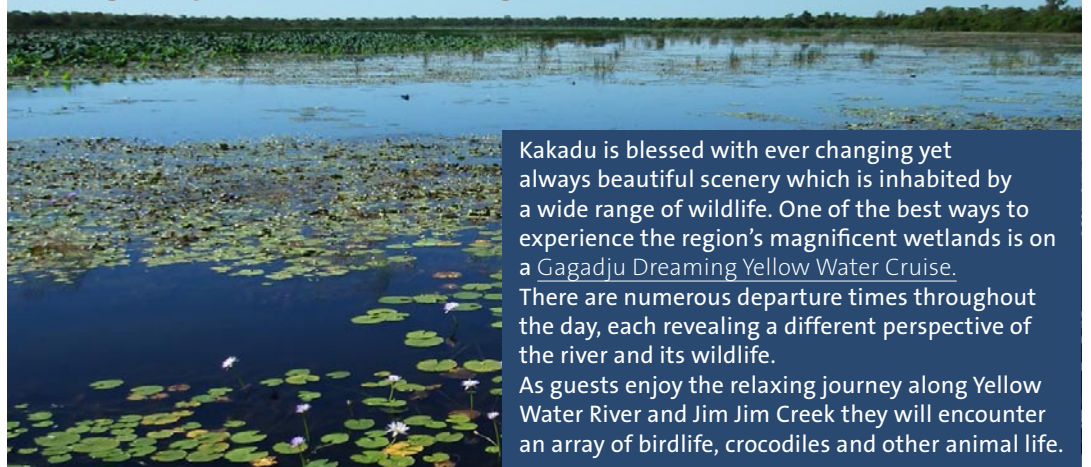


Getting There

There are multiple daily connecting flights to Darwin from New Zealand via Sydney and Brisbane.

From Darwin, Kakadu National Park is easily accessed by driving south for approximately three hours.

Gagadju Dreaming Yellow Water Cruise



Kakadu is blessed with ever changing yet always beautiful scenery which is inhabited by a wide range of wildlife. One of the best ways to experience the region's magnificent wetlands is on a Gagadju Dreaming Yellow Water Cruise. There are numerous departure times throughout the day, each revealing a different perspective of the river and its wildlife. As guests enjoy the relaxing journey along Yellow Water River and Jim Jim Creek they will encounter an array of birdlife, crocodiles and other animal life.



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Calendar Down Under

Events and Festivals

Australia's event calendar remains strong over the winter months. Below is a selection of upcoming events, for a more comprehensive database that you can use to turn your client's holiday into something truly special go to Australia.com/events.

Adelaide Cabaret Festival

08-23 Jun

A major annual event in the Australian arts calendar, with a reputation of highlighting the best local, national and international artists in the cabaret genre, with classic and contemporary cabaret performances.

adelaidecabaretfestival.com.au

Picasso to Warhol: Twelve Modern Masters 16 Jun-03 Dec

More than 100 masterpieces by iconic 20th century artists will be on display at the Art Gallery of Western Australia in Perth. The exhibition will include celebrated works from the Museum of Modern Art. artgallery.wa.gov.au

Biennale of Sydney

27 Jun-16 Sep

Australia's largest and most exciting contemporary visual arts event. Held every two years, the Biennale presents a three-month exhibition, plus a program of artist talks, performances, forums, film screenings, family events, guided tours and other special events, all free to the public.

biennaleofsydney.com.au

Bondi Winter Festival

29 Jun-15 Jul

Iconic Bondi is one of the locations for the upcoming Winter Festival which celebrates all things winter. The festival will boast a huge ice outdoor ice rink, entertainment, giveaways and more.

winterfestival.com.au

Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta

15 Jul

A regatta like no other, with boats primarily built entirely from aluminium beer cans. This annual Darwin family event is a spectacle for all who line Mindil Beach and cheer on the home-made boats as they flounder and sink in the shallows. beercanregatta.org.au/

Delectable

16-29 Jul

Brisbane's brand new food festival celebrating Queensland produce, farmers and chefs. 'Delectable' will bring to life key outdoor spaces across Brisbane through an exciting program of music, food and entertainment. delectableqld.com.au/

'Portrait of Spain: Masterpieces from the Prado'

21 Jul-04 Nov

Queensland Art Gallery in Brisbane will host a magnificent survey of the development of painting in Spain over the course of four centu-

ries, and the first ever collection of work from Madrid's esteemed the Museo Nacional del Prado to visit Australia.

qagoma.qld.gov.au

Mundaring Truffle Festival

28-29 Jul

A truffle-themed gourmet weekend set in the Mundaring Sculpture Park just outside Perth. The festival is unique opportunity to try, learn about and buy this culinary delicacy in one of the only places in the world where it is naturally grown.

mundaringtrufflefestival.com

Barossa Gourmet Weekend

18-19 Aug

A weekend of indulgence in the Barossa, one of the world's most famous wine regions. Each of the cellar doors taking part in this event will be serving up gourmet experiences matched with premium wines and the smooth sounds of live music.

nz.southaustralia.com

Blooming Tasmania

01 Sep 2012-31 May, 2013

Blooming Tasmania is a collection of floral shows, festivals and garden open days held throughout Tasmania. The events are a celebration of the state's gardens and diverse horticultural and botanical delights in one of the world's most growable climates.

bloomingtasmania.com

Spring Racing Carnival

15 Sep-18 Nov

A world class event showcasing thoroughbred racing, fashion and entertainment. With three months of fabulous racing days across Victoria visitors can experience the excitement and fervour of racing at both metropolitan and country tracks.

racingvictoria.net.au

Crave Sydney International Food Festival

01-31 Oct

A month of extraordinary food events from fine dining at leading restaurants to street fairs, community picnics, barbecues, cooking classes and tours, everything goes on show in October.

cravesydney.com

Melbourne Festival

11-27 Oct

A celebration of art and culture from around the world with an unparalleled feast of theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film and outdoor events.

melbournefestival.com.au/aboutus



australia.com