

## APY Lands Art Tour for Vivien Anderson group May 2019

Welcome to your tailor-made Aboriginal art tour, designed to help you connect with the land and culture that influences the art you admire. We have developed an itinerary that features an interesting selection of remote Indigenous art centres combined with some fabulous sightseeing opportunities along the way. We hope you enjoy the experience of travelling through this spectacular country and meeting some of the local people who help make this unique part of Australia so special. We believe this experience will be a wonderful opportunity for you to gain a greater knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal art and culture, truly enhancing your relationship with your current and future collection and leaving you with memories to last a lifetime.

This trip will be hosted by Vivien Anderson and a guide from Aboriginal Art Connections.

### Day One

- Arrive into Alice Springs from home ports (domestic flights from your home port and return at your own expense and arrangements).
- Be met at the airport and travel to the hotel by private transfer.
- Meet the rest of the group in the late afternoon for a welcome drink and then on to dinner.
- Overnight Alice Springs - **Doubletree by Hilton** or similar

### Day Two

- Breakfast is included at the hotel; please charge back to your room. Check out and settle any incidentals.
- By mini bus, spend the day visiting **Alice Springs** galleries, such as:
  - **RAFT artspace** [www.raftartspace.com.au](http://www.raftartspace.com.au) RAFT artspace is committed to showing Indigenous work in the context of Contemporary art in a program that includes other Contemporary Art. Founded in Darwin in 2001 by Dallas Gold, RAFT presented more than 150 exhibitions there, before relocating in 2010 to Alice Springs. In 2016 RAFT expanded to Hobart, forming RAFT south.
  - **Tangentyere Artists** [www.tangentyereartists.org.au](http://www.tangentyereartists.org.au) Around 400 Artists make up Tangentyere Artists; an Alice Springs based Aboriginal owned Art Centre providing Arts training and Workshops as well as Marketing and Sales support for the artists. The unique quality of Tangentyere Artists is that it represents the breadth and depth of Central Australian cultural diversity. Hence there is a huge diversity in style and story, as well as medium, ranging from acrylic painting on canvas through to paintings on recycled metal objects and wooden surfaces. Seed Jewellery and recycled metal jewellery is also made and sold from the art centre and the paintings range from the very traditional motifs to highly contemporary modern depictions of life.

- **Yarrenyty Arltere** [www.yarrenytyarlttereartists.com](http://www.yarrenytyarlttereartists.com) In 2000 Yarrenyty Arltere was established as a training program through the Yarrenyty Arltere Learning Centre (YALC), and in 2009 the art centre became an art enterprise. Located in Larapinta Valley Town Camp in Alice Springs, the centre works with 10-12 western Arrernte and Luritja artists. The centre's name, Yarrenyty Arltere, means white devil dog, referring to the prominent white hill opposite YALC. It is associated with the dog dreaming, which belongs to the central Arrernte people. Central to the practice of artists at Yarrenyty Arltere is soft sculpture, made from recycled woollen blankets dyed with local plants and rusted pieces of metal. The blankets are then used as the base material to create unique and innovative sculptures. The artists and the community have collaborated on two soft sculpture animations telling important stories of the community.
- **Tjanpi Desert Weavers** [www.tjanpi.com.au](http://www.tjanpi.com.au) Tjanpi Desert Weavers is a social enterprise of the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women's Council created to enable women in remote central deserts to earn their own income from fibre art. Tjanpi represents more than 400 Aboriginal women artists from 26 remote communities on the NPY lands. The NPY lands cover approximately 350,000 square kms across the tri-state (WA, SA, NT) border region of Central Australia. Tjanpi field officers regularly travel to these communities and purchase artworks from the artists, supply art materials, hold skills development workshops and facilitate grass collecting trips. These trips also allow a number of other cultural maintenance activities to take place.



- We'll stop for lunch during the day. In the late afternoon, meet our pilot and take a charter flight in a 13 seat Cessna Caravan (single engine) from Alice Springs to Uluru.
- On arrival, transfer to the hotel and check in, meet for dinner at one of the restaurants at Ayers Rock Resort.
- Overnight **Ayers Rock Resort – Rock View rooms at Desert Gardens Hotel.** (Sails in the Desert Hotel under renovation during this time).

## Day Three

- Breakfast is included at the hotel; please charge back to your room. Transfer to the Uluru Airport for our charter flight.
- 0900 By charter flight - head to **Tjarlirli Arts** (Tjukurla) (1-hour flight)
- Arrive at Tjarlirli Art Centre. Tjarlirli represents the artists of Tjukurla in the Nganyatjarra lands of Western Australia. The artwork has strong links with the Papunya Tula movement as families left Kintore and Kiwirrkurra to return to their homelands in the mid 1980s.



- 1230 Leave and fly to **Kalkakutjara Arts** (Docker River) (20 min flight)
- 1600 In the afternoon, travel back to Uluru (50 min flight)
- Arrive back into Uluru and transfer to the hotel. This evening enjoy the art installation **Field of Light** followed by the **Sounds of Silence** dinner. This could be on one of the other evenings, depending on timings.
- As darkness falls and Uluru is thrown into silhouette, **Field of Light illuminates**. As far as the eye can see gentle rhythms of colour light up the desert. The critically acclaimed Field of Light Uluru by the internationally celebrated artist Bruce Munro has now been extended until 31 December 2020. The exhibition, aptly named Tili Wiru Tjuta Nyakutjaku or 'looking at lots of beautiful lights' in local Pitjantjatjara is Munro's largest work to date. Overwhelming in size, covering more than seven football fields, it invites immersion in its fantasy garden of 50,000 spindles of light, the stems breathing and swaying through a sympathetic desert spectrum of ochre, deep violet, blue and gentle white.
- Your **Sounds of Silence** experience, which this year celebrates its 25th anniversary, begins with canapes and chilled sparkling wine served on a viewing platform overlooking the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. As the sun sets and darkness falls, listen to the sound of a didgeridoo and join your table of fellow travellers for an unforgettable dining experience.
- Settle back and listen to our resident star talker decode the southern night sky. Locate the Southern Cross, the signs of the zodiac, the Milky Way, as well as planets and galaxies that are visible due to the exceptional clarity of the atmosphere.
- Overnight **Ayers Rock Resort**

## Day Four

- Breakfast is included at the hotel; please charge back to your room. Transfer to the airport for our charter flight.
- 0700 By charter flight – visit **Spinifex Arts Project** (Tjuntjundara) (2.5 hour flight)
- The **Spinifex** artists continue to paint traditional stories and document kinship responsibilities with acrylic paint on linen, often using a vibrant, unrestricted palette. Spinifex works have become widely known in the fine art world and the now growing body of work is internationally acclaimed and housed within major art and museum collections both in Australia and overseas. Bush trips to local sites, birthplaces and Ilkurlka Outstation are still the main forums for producing paintings. Collaborative works are signature pieces for the Spinifex people and are keenly sought by collectors and institutions. Up to eight senior men and women may work on separate collaborative works, painting Jukurrpa or sacred stories such as The Seven Sisters, Wati Kutjara, Karlaya story and many other stories from the wider Spinifex area. Individual works are also produced during such trips and all paintings are documented and photographed for the community's archive.



- 1200 Travel on to **Ninuku Arts** (Kalka). (1 hour 50 min flight)
- Ninuku Arts is a wholly-Indigenous owned and governed Art Centre which supports artists from two communities – Pipalyatjara and Kalka. Each have populations of around 100-150 Anangu and the majority are Pitjantjatjara speakers – Anangu simply means 'people' in Pitjantjatjara. Both communities are located in the far north-western corner of South Australia, near the tri-state border of South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory. The two communities, fourteen kilometres apart, are surrounded by the rolling, rocky hills of the Tomkinson Ranges and are part of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands.



- 1600 Travel back to Uluru (1 hour flight)
- Arrive at Uluru and transfer to the hotel. Dinner in one of the Resort restaurants this evening.
- Overnight **Ayers Rock Resort**

## Day Five

- Breakfast is included at the hotel; please charge back to your room. Transfer to the airport for our charter flight.
- 0900 By charter flights visit **Mimili Maku Art Centre** (Everard Park) (1 hour 10 min flight)
- Arrive at **Mimili Maku Art Centre**.
- Mimili Maku Arts is a vibrant contemporary art studio located on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands, in the remote North-West of South Australia. The studio offers support to artists across different disciplines such as painting, photography and new-media. It is a place for intergenerational exchange and learning. Director Mumu Mike Williams says: 'At Mimili Maku Arts we work together: The old men and women side by side with their children and grandchildren. This is Anangu way.'
- The art centre's name refers to the Maku (witchetty grub) Tjukurpa, which is ever present in the paintings of senior artists like Betty Kuntiwa Pumani (winner NATSIAA 2015 & 2016, winner Wynne Prize 2017), Ngupulya Pumani (finalist NATSIAA 2015, finalist Wynne Prize 2017), Tuppy Goodwin and Puna Yanima.
- 1240 Leave and fly to **Kaljiti** (Fregon) (20min flight)
- Kaltjiti Arts and Crafts is a community based Aboriginal owned art-centre at Fregon. It is situated 350km east of Uluru and 500km south-west of Alice Springs in the remote north-west of South Australia. Art and craft has been a part of the Fregon Community since the beginning of the outstations days that began in 1961. Connected to Ernabella Arts through this outstation movement until 1974, hooked rugs made from hand spun sheep's wool, leather moccasins and hand-painted cards were some of the original items worked on by the women using the 'walka' style. The artwork of Fregon has been strongly based in the medium of fabric with batik, screen-printing and silk painting predominating at various

times. The recent move towards painting as a major art-form has seen a contemporary style of artwork develop, yet the artists have maintained the essence of their original style. They have also, in the process, reaffirmed their versatility as artists. [www.kaltjitiarts.com.au](http://www.kaltjitiarts.com.au)

- 1600 Fly back to Uluru (1 hour flight)
- Arrive back into Uluru and transfer to the hotel. Dinner in one of the Resort restaurants this evening.
- Overnight **Ayers Rock Resort**

## Day Six

- Breakfast is included at the hotel; please charge back to your room. Transfer to the airport for our charter flight.
- 0700 By charter flight travel to **Ernabella Arts Centre** (Ernabella) (1 hour flight)
- Ernabella Art Centre. Established in 1948, Ernabella Arts is Australia's oldest, continuously running Indigenous Art Centre. Ernabella Arts is in Pukatja Community, at the eastern end of the Musgrave Ranges in the far north west of South Australia.
- Pukatja was the first permanent settlement on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands (APY Lands). The Presbyterian Board of Missions established the mission in 1937, and a craft room was established in 1948. The first craft products were hand-loomed woven fabrics and hand-pulled and knotted floor rugs with a unique pattern that became known as 'the Ernabella walka' or anapalayaku walka (Ernabella's design).
- In recent years, long after commencing working as artists, senior women decided to leave behind the walka of the early days and to depict their Tjukurpa (sacred stories of country and law). The centre's inimitable reputation lies in the adaptability and innovation of the artists who have been introduced to many different mediums since the craft room began. Today its varied group of artists is a mix of young and old, men and women. There are very senior Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara men including NATSIAA winner Dickie Minyintiri. The members of Ernabella Arts are always reinvigorating their centre, seeing it through its evolution from the first incarnation as a craft room, into a culturally strong contemporary art centre.
- 1030 Leave and fly to **Tjala Arts** (Amata) (30min flight)
- Tjala Arts is located in Amata community, in far north-west South Australia on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands. Established in 1999, Tjala Arts has launched the careers of artists including Wawiriya Burton, Ray Ken, Mick Wikilyiri, Sylvia Ken, Barbara Moore and the five Ken Sisters - Yaritji Young, Freda Brady, Sandra Ken, Maringka Tunkin and Tjungkara Ken - who won the prestigious Wynne Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW in 2016. Emerging artists Rhonda Dick and Anwar Young have likewise experienced success with photography, installation and sound work. Most recently, Rhonda and Anwar won the overall prize at the 34th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (2017) for their multimedia collaborative work with fellow Tjala artist Frank Young. Anwar was also nominated for the John Fries Award the same year.

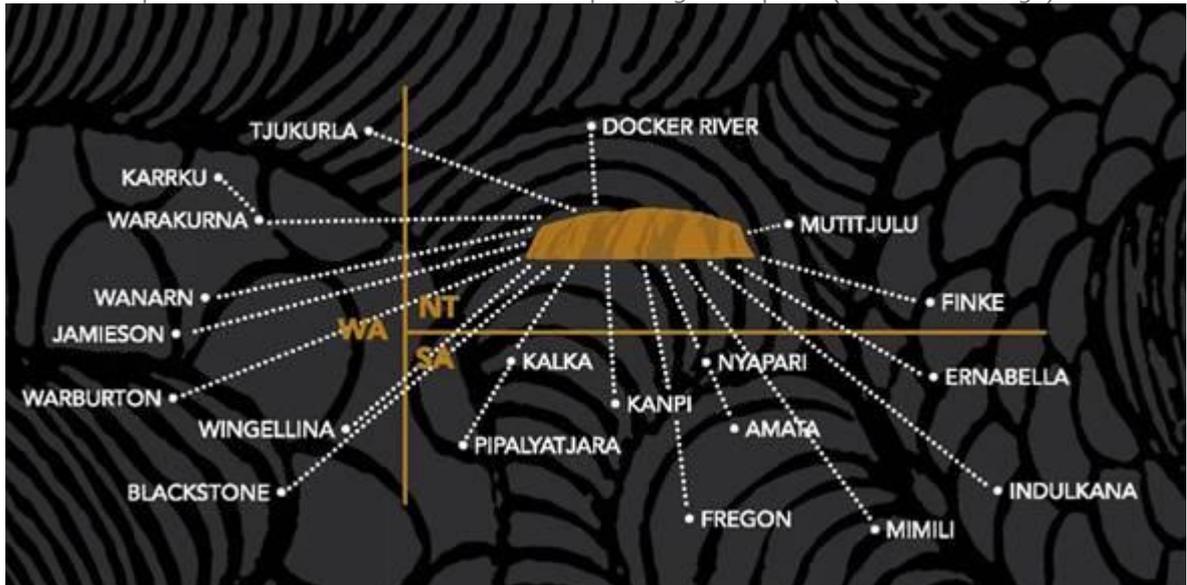
- Tjala Artists embrace a variety of mediums including acrylic paint on linen, punu (wood work) and tjanpi (fibre weaving) and is renowned for its reputation of artistic excellence and innovative projects. Now in its fifth year, the Kulata Tjuta (many spears) project, with its origins at Tjala Arts, has since spread across the APY Lands as a powerful cultural rejuvenation project focused on sharing the skills of spear making across generations. The third, and most recent iteration of this project featured a large scale installation and sound work exhibited as part of Tarnanthi Festival of Contemporary ATSI Arts in Adelaide in October 2017.
- 1330 Fly to **Tjungu Palya** (Nyapari) (30 min flight)
- The Art Centre is based in Nyapari community, which is located at the base of the Mann Ranges in the Pitjantatjara lands of far north-west South Australia (approximately 100 kilometres from the Western Australian border). Artists working with Tjungu Palya Art Centre live at Kanpi, Nyapari, Angatja and Watarru.
- Tjungu Palya is a dynamic and innovative community Art Centre that plays a vital economic role in the sustainability of these small communities. Tjungu Palya also supports community development projects such as an aged care and lunch program, governance training and cultural maintenance. The motivation for building up the business of the art centre is to increase the capacity for Anangu to take positive control of their lives. Tjungu Palya means 'Good Together' and refers to this collaboration between the homelands.



- 1620 Return to Uluru (40 min flight)
- Arrive back into Uluru and transfer to the hotel. Dinner in one of the Resort restaurants this evening.
- Overnight **Ayers Rock Resort**

## Day Seven

- Breakfast is included at the hotel; please charge back to your room. Transfer to the airport for our charter flight.
- TBA By car, travel to **Maruku Arts** in the community of Mutijulu (20 min drive)
- Maruku today is one of the largest and most successful indigenous owned and operated organisations. Currently, Maruku comprises of a warehouse based in Mutitjulu community, a retail gallery at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Cultural Centre, as well as a market stall in the town square of Yulara. Our main stocks are paintings and punu (wooden carvings).



- Fly back to home ports from Uluru.
- Thank you for travelling with Vivien Anderson and Aboriginal Art Connections.

Price is inclusive of all permits, accommodation, travel and meals and **non-alcoholic** beverages ex Alice Springs, ending in Ayers Rock; with two escorts throughout.

Thank you for travelling with **Aboriginal Art Connections**.

Contact: Tracey Vince Ph 0417 844577

[tracey@artconnections.com.au](mailto:tracey@artconnections.com.au)