

ALICE SPRINGS

4-DAY ITINERARY

Introduction

If you don't have a lot of time to fully appreciate Alice Springs and the vast surrounding area, there's plenty to do in and around the town in as little as four days. You can do-it-yourself, or join tours with knowledgeable guides for an action-packed short break. Here are the must-do experiences for a four-day stay in 'the Alice'.

Day 1

Arrive in Alice Springs and settle into your accommodation. Spend the rest of the day exploring Alice Springs' many attractions on a hop-on, hop-off bus ride where you can gain an insight into Alice Springs's outback heritage visiting the Telegraph Station, the School of the Air and the Royal Flying Doctor Service, among many others.

In the evening, head to the Sounds of Starlight show in the Todd Mall, which combines powerful imagery of the region with didjeridu music.

Day 2

Head west to explore the MacDonnell Ranges that stretch to the east and west of the town. The Ranges hide beautiful gorges, peaks and chasms, and are easily accessible in a conventional vehicle. The top spots to visit on the track out from Alice include Simpsons Gap, Standley Chasm, Serpentine Gorge, the Ochre Pits and Ormiston Gorge.

These are awesome natural attractions that can be experienced in a day - take your bathers and a picnic lunch.

Enjoy the drive back to Alice and sample the town's nightlife in a saloon bar, at the casino or in an Irish pub.

Day 3

Visit the Alice Springs Desert Park this morning. Sir David Attenborough once said "there is no museum or wildlife park in the world that could match it". It's 10 minutes from the town, and you'll need the whole morning to see it all.

Don't miss the nocturnal house and the free-flying birds of prey at the nature theatre.

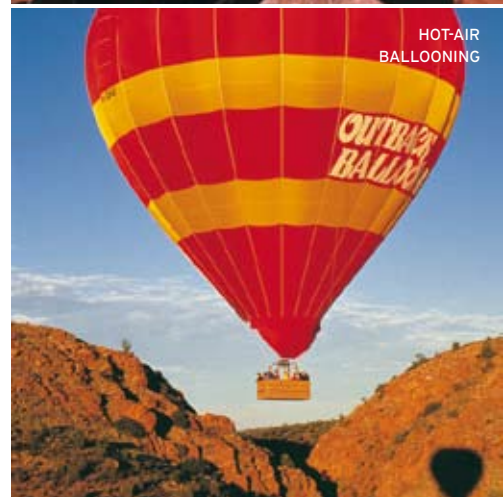
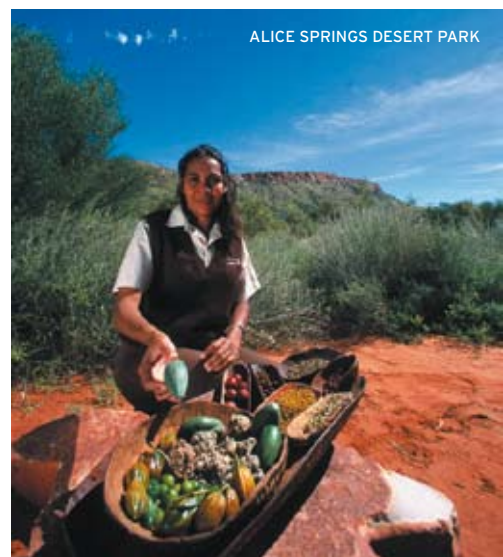
Enjoy lunch in the Park's cafe then make your way to the Date Farm, the perfect place to have afternoon tea, where the date scones and date ice cream are indulgences not to be missed!

End the day with a flight over the MacDonnell Ranges to take in the country you explored yesterday from above.

Day 4

Wake early to greet a magnificent desert sunrise from aboard a hot air balloon. Touch down to a gourmet breakfast of chicken and champagne. Spend the rest of morning at the Alice Springs Cultural Precinct, which includes the Aviation Museum, the Central Australian Museum, Strehlow Research Centre and the Araluen Galleries, home to the acclaimed Namatjira Exhibition.

Or, visit the Road Transport Hall of Fame and the Old Ghan Heritage Museum that tell the story of the unique transport heritage of this outback town. Finish it all off with a camel ride at sunset, followed by a delicious outback dinner. You'll sleep well tonight.



Did you know?

- The Royal Flying Doctor Service was the first aerial medical organisation of its type in the world and began its service from Alice Springs in 1939
- The Ochre Pits is a site that's been used for generations by Aboriginal people to gather ochre for their paintings and ceremonial body decoration
- The early pioneers used camels to travel through the Northern Territory's harsh terrain and there are about 150,000 wild camels still roaming the area today