

The Top End -Banajarl Program Overview

Dear Women.

You are invited to spend six, special days on the Traditional Lands of the Jawoyn and Larrakia People.

Arrive in Darwin and be greeted by your Red Earth leaders. Visit a beautiful waterhole in Larrakia Country before travelling south to the Banatjarl Outstation on Jawoyn Country.

Spend three days at the Banatjarl Outstation and be welcomed by the Banatjarl Strongbala Wimun Grup and the Andrews Family, the Traditional custodians of this Land. Listen to the Banatjarl Strongbala Wimun Grup story and their vision for positive change for women, families, and communities on their Country. Learn traditional cooking techniques using open fire. Share meals and time around the fire connecting over this unique experience, yarning into the evening. Make your own traditional bush medicine for their native garden, and take home what you make. Walk on Country to sacred women's sites and waterholes, discovering more about the rich history of this Land.

Depart Banatjarl and take a short drive to the breathtaking Nitmiluk National Park for a Guided Tour of this incredible gorge system. Cruise through the first gorge alongside limestone escarpments before reaching the transfer point where a short 400m walk will lead you to another boat waiting to take you into the second gorge. Along the way, cultural guides will share their knowledge of plants, animals, dreamtime stories and culture. You'll see spectacular geographical features, local wildlife, and abundant vegetation. In the afternoon, hike to the rim of the Nitmiluk Gorge to very your final sunset over Jawoyn County.

We hope you can join us on this opportunity to connect with the land, yourself and the women around you

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Jawoyn and Larrakia Countries on which we will be meeting, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Experience, connect, and grow with Traditional Owners



- Join us in August 2025 to experience life with female Traditional Owners on Country
- Stay in privately held, remote Homelands which are inaccessible outside of this setting
- Make meaningful, authentic connections with Indigenous Australians living on their own land
- Learn about language, land, history and culture from welcoming hosts so willing to share
- Meet other women to connect about sacred women's business
- Be supported in a sacred space of sharing with an open heart



THE TOP END Homeland Spirit

Please note that this is a sample map to illustrate a typical Red Earth immersion. Your final itinerary may be different. *from pricing is minimum. Ask for our pricing page and speak with our team for tailored Proposal*



First Nations led educational tourism activities

Enjoy the sites of Nitmiluk National Park

Homeland Spirit immersions have two main components

Darwin

Nitmiluk NP

Banatjarl

First Nations Immersion on Homelands

All participants will spend several nights with Traditional Owners, staying in private Homelands inaccessible outside of this setting, learning directly from the world's oldest ongoing culture.

The Top End Homeland Spirit Sample Itinerary



Wilderness Womens Immersion - Banatjarl

Day 1 - The Journey Begins

- Morning: Meet your leaders at 11 am at a Darwin CBD location
- Travel to Berry Springs by minivan for a Welcome to Country and the Muku Women's Morning
- Afternoon: Enjoy a swim and lunch at Berry Springs before traveling to Banatjarl
- © Evening: Receive a Traditional Welcome to Country at Banatjarl, set up camp, and end the day with Dreamtime stories around the campfire

Day 2 - Banatjarl

- Morning: Learn from members of the Jawoyn Association about their work and heritage
- Afternoon: Walk through the Bush Medicine Garden with Traditional Owners and prepare your own takeaway jar. Participate in bush craft activities, such as weaving, jewellery making, or traditional tie-dyeing. Option walk to a nearby spring to cool off
- Evening: Reflect on the day's experiences around the campfire

Day 3 - Banatjarl

- Morning: Take a walk to the Mermaid Dreaming site
- Afternoon: Experience traditional cooking, including kangaroo tail and damper making. Option to give and grow through a project in the community garden
- Evening: Continue your nightly reflections

Day 4 - Banatjarl

- Morning: Delve into kinship, moiety, and skin names, then engage in a creative activity to visually map out how these systems interrelate
- Afternoon: Design a t-shirt inspired by your time at Banatjarl. Later, hike to watch the sunset
- Evening: Reflect on the day's adventures

Day 5 - Nitmiluk National Park

- Morning: Travel by minivan to Nitmiluk National Park
- Afternoon: Explore the incredible Katherine Gorge on a boat cruise, known for its waterholes and rock art.
- Evening: Watch the sunset over the gorge, followed by a final reflection and debrief

Day 6 - Return to Darwin

- Morning: Travel back to Darwin by minivan, on the way stop at Edith Falls to cool off and enjoy lunch
- Afternoon: Arrive back in Darwin CBD location from 3pm, bring an end to the Red Earth Women's Immersion
- Evening: Optional recommendation. Enjoy dinner and shopping at the Mindil Beach Sunset Markets



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How do Elders and Traditional Owners feel about people coming onto their land? Will we be intruding?

We are an organisation driven by our Indigenous partners in the homelands of remote Australia. Our mission is to give Indigenous people the help they need if they wish to open the hearts and minds of visitors to their country, culture, and way of life. We only make our resources available if we're asked to help. Traditional Owners are the ones who decide if and when people should come onto their land, not us.

What is the pre-departure program like?

Red Earth takes its responsibility to ensure that each person attending an immersion is culturally and practically prepared very seriously. We have designed an online portal for this professional development trip tailored for your specific itinerary. You will be able to read up on the history of the area and the specific communities you will visit, read profiles of the Elders and Traditional Owners who will be hosting you, and look up useful information like packing lists and weather charts.

What amenities are available? Will there be showers and bathrooms?

We will have access to showers or river swims and flushing or drop toilets every day. It won't be like your bathroom at home, but will be enough to make the experience comfortable.

What food will be available?

While there will be opportunities for you to forage for bush foods, we bring all the catering equipment and meals with us. We will have fresh fruit and vegetables and healthy meals throughout the trip. We cater for every kind of dietary requirement and encourage participants to lend a hand in the kitchen. You can bring some food of your own too, but please note this is a 100% nut-free immersion.



Inclusions, payment process and cancellation policy

Inclusions

Red Earth organises everything from start to finish. The immersion fee includes:

- All ground travel on the program will be included, however, you will be expected to make your way to Darwin Airport. Flight costs are not included. Please ensure all flights arrive before program starts and leaves 2 hours after program end from Darwin. For those arriving earlier or departing later, there will also be a pickup/drop-off point in Darwin
- Red Earth leader(s) to look after the campsite, liaise with the community, uphold safety standards and help lead building and cultural activities
- · Use of private, exclusive lands
- · All cultural activities led by Traditional Owners, including equipment needed for the activities
- All ground transport with experienced drivers for the duration of the immersion
- Camping and cooking equipment
- Spacious tents you can stand in with private compartment
- Three nutritious meals a day plus snacks
- Information session delivered by your leaders prior to the Immersion
- An online portal for participants with learning resources and information about your immersion
- Red Earth merchandise including a hoodie
- A comprehensive risk mitigation strategy
- Permits and entry fees
- Insurance for leaders, volunteers and third parties (not participants)

The following are not included:

- Airfares and travel insurance for participants
- The design, implementation, cost and delivery of the materials for a community project (where relevant)
- Souvenirs and purchases (including food) made at airports and on flights

Terms of Payment

1. Deposit: \$1,500 due upon registration

2. Second Payment: \$1,500 due on 18th March

3. Balance: \$1,095 due 17th June 2025

Red Earth Cancellation Policy - Ground Costs (Top End, Central Australia, Cape York)

For individuals who choose to cancel for any reason, the following Red Earth cancellation policy applies. This includes (but is not limited to) an individual not attending due to injury or illness.

- Cancelling between due dates for the Deposit and Second Payment will result in the forfeiture of the deposit amount.
- Cancelling between dues dates for the Second Payment and Balance will result in the forfeiture of the deposit plus 50% of the second payment.
- Cancellation between Balance Due Date and 4 Weeks Prior to Departure: Forfeiture of the deposit, the second payment, plus an additional 50% of the final balance.
- Cancellation within 4 Weeks Prior to Departure: Forfeiture of the deposit, second payment, and 75% of the final balance.
- Cancelling on or after the Date of Departure, or failing to join the group without notice, will result in the forfeit of 100% of the fee paid.

Please note changes such as participant substitutions, adding new participants etc. can not be made later than 4 weeks prior to departure. Until the initial deposit payment is received, costs are subject to change at the discretion of Red Earth.



Interested?

Event: A 6-day transformative Red Earth and Wilderness Within Women's Immersion at Banatjarl homeland, The Top End.

Registration Fee: \$4,095 per person

Dates: Tuesday, 19th - Sunday, 24th August 2025

Scan the QR Code or click <u>here</u> to apply!

Learn about our:



Safety



Traditional Owner Partners



Immersion Leaders





Accommodation



Transport

