

Wetlands' Experience

Essentials for visit: Hat, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, drinking water

Optional: Long-sleeved shirts, closed shoes, binoculars, snacks



High level summary

This exciting field trip allows participants to explore the wetlands of Australia's unique Top End region and experience the deep connection between the land and its inhabitants. Participants will get to learn about the culture and wildlife of the stunning Northern Coastal Wetlands with a scenic cruise along the Corroboree Billabong in the company of a knowledgeable Aboriginal guide. Participants will also get to go on a 2-hour Aboriginal Culture tour, where they will learn about the local history and culture in a bush tucker walk and talk, participate in basket weaving, have a go at throwing a spear, blowing a didgeridoo, and learn about local bush food and medicine and much more!

Detailed description

The trip begins at 7:15 am on September 26 from the Darwin Esplanade from where we will head to the Corroboree Billabong, located about 90 minutes south-east of Darwin. Corroboree Billabong is part of the Mary River Wetlands, home to the largest concentration of saltwater crocodiles in the world. These Wetlands are also a paradise for birds, fish, and other wildlife. Participants will learn about the economic, social, and cultural benefits of the Wetlands as well as of the deep connection between the Wetlands and the people and animals inhabiting the area in the company of an expert Aboriginal guide aboard an hour-long scenic boat cruise on the Corroboree Billabong. They will also get to view an abundance of birds, crocodiles, and other wildlife in their natural habitat. The cruise boat is designed to

allow for nature-based engagement including up-close encounters with wildlife and affords plenty of amazing photo opportunities.

Following the cruise, participants will then travel 30 minutes to Pudukul Aboriginal Cultural Tours for a 2-hour authentic cultural experience. Pudukul Aboriginal Cultural Tours is an established 100% fully Aboriginal owned and operated family business that has been delivering original, popular Aboriginal culture and nature based engagement experiences since 2008. On this tour, participants will have the opportunity to engage with local Aboriginal people, the environment and wildlife, learn about the local history, culture, bush food and medicine in a bush tucker walk and talk, participate in basket weaving, dilly bag making, and the techniques used in the process, have a go at throwing a spear, blowing a didgeridoo, and more! Lunch will be served here including vegetarian and meat lover rolls, and hot and cold refreshments. This experience also includes billy tea and damper (bush bread). Following this tour, participants will head back to Darwin and can expect to be back by around 1:30 pm. This field trip does not specifically address restoration in the wetlands, but the guide may be able to discuss any restorative activities that have occurred in the area.