



20 July 2022



Tourism Australia acknowledges the Traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Owners of the land, sea and waters of the Australian continent, and recognises their custodianship of culture and Country for over 65,000 years.

A WEALTH OF NEWS

Thank you for signing up to receive our newsletters. We have endeavoured to keep the content succinct, relevant and with links for further information. In this issue we do have a lot of news to share - with Australia's international borders open our members have been active

enhancing their experiences and welcoming back international travellers.

Our highlight news is that we welcomed three new members to the collective:

[Burrawa Indigenous Climb Experience](#), New South Wales

[Firescreek Botanical Winery Aboriginal Experiences](#), New South Wales

[Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours](#), Western Australia

Please see our Members Features section for more information on our new operators.

[Bremer Island Banubanu Beach Retreat](#) is operating but is no longer a member of the collective due to currently being up for sale as Helen and Trevor are retiring. We will keep you updated should the new owners decide to continue Aboriginal guided experiences.

The collective now has 46 members offering over 185 Aboriginal guided experiences.

Many thanks Nicole

EXPERIENCES UPDATE



Australian Museum, NSW

[The Australian Museum](#) has recommenced the enlightening [Waranara First Nations Tour](#), inviting visitors to learn about the knowledge systems and sustainable practices of our First Nations Peoples. On this one-hour tour of the First Nations Galleries, guides will share personal stories about the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.



Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, NSW

The Royal Botanic Garden Sydney has introduced two new experiences:

[Aboriginal Bush Tucker Tour](#) - Walk with your First Nations guide through the Botanic Gardens to learn more about Indigenous bush foods and how these foods were used traditionally and adapted to the modern plate and palate.

[Aboriginal Harbour Heritage Tour](#) -

Join your First Nations guide and admire the beauty and history of Sydney Harbour through the lens of the Gadigal.



Dreamtime Southern X, NSW

[Dreamtime Southern X](#) has now commenced twice daily departures of their [illi-Langi The Rocks Aboriginal Dreaming tour](#). Tours now operate at 10:30am and 1:30pm.



Worn Gundidj @ Tower Hill, VIC

[Worn Gundidj @ Tower Hill](#) offer a range of group programs including Welcome to Country ceremonies, Bush BBQ catered events and Cultural Awareness training.



Top Didj Cultural Experience & Art Gallery, NT

[Top Didj](#) recently opened their brand-new gallery. This is an amazing new space showcasing Indigenous art.



Kakadu Tourism, NT

[Kakadu Tourism](#) has launched a new Business Events and Incentives Program. More details can be found [here](#).



Maruku Arts, NT

Two new experiences are now operating:

[Kuniya Walk](#) - Gain insight into life at Uluru with a local Anangu guide. Explore caves, learn about local bush foods, hear the Kuniya Tjukurpa (stories) and see the Tjukuritja (stories set in stone).

[Bush Medicine Workshop](#) - Sit with the keepers of this ancient medicine as the senior Anangu ladies invite you to learn about the use and the production of traditional bush medicine.



Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia, NT

The new [Gallery of Central Australia \(GoCA\)](#) provides a platform for the Indigenous community to share their stories and culture, showcasing the work of emerging Indigenous artists from the region.



Walkabout Cultural Adventures, QLD

[Walkabout Cultural Adventures](#) recently renamed their Cultural and Sightseeing Tours to Kuku Yalanji names, as sharing their culture and learning their language are key



Kingfisher Tours, WA

Kingfisher Tours has launched three new experiences:

[K7-1 Mitchell Falls Overnight Safari](#) - Discover the Mitchell Falls and the North Coast on an intimate and unhurried 2-day safari,

components of their tour experiences. Here are some tips if you need help pronouncing the new names:

NGANA JULAYMBA DUNGAY
(pronounced nyahna joolaimbah doong-aay): We All Going to Daintree

NGANA KULKINGA DUNGAY
(pronounced nyahna gool-ging-ah doong-aay): We All Going to Cape Tribulation

overnighting at Mitchell Falls Wilderness Lodge.

[IKS4N Iconic Kimberley Safari](#) -

Discover the magnificent Kimberley icons: Punamii-Uunpuu (Mitchell Falls) National Park and Purnululu (Bungle Bungle) National Park on an exclusive 5-day/4-night Air Safari.

[OTB – Off the Beaten Track](#)

(previously Shh - Secret Locations Tour) - Spend a day four-wheel-driving and discovering Kununurra and surrounds with local Kingfisher guides.



Borrgoron Coast to Creek Tours, WA

Take in the beautiful views of Cygnet Bay, whilst Terry Hunter dives deep into the stories that shaped the pearling industry in the new [Borrgoron Culture & History Tour](#).



Narlijia Experiences Broome, WA



Flames of the Forest, QLD

[Flames of the Forest](#) is excited to announce the reintroduction of their [Aboriginal Cultural Experience](#) to the public. Transfers are available from Port Douglas.



Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours, WA

Journey across Broome's coastal peninsula and hear Dreaming stories, visit ancient shell middens, learn to identify certain flora and fauna, and discover the significant marine ecosystem of the area in the new [Beach to Bay Tour Experience](#).

[Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours](#) has now introduced a Mirima Walk every Friday in addition to current Tuesday and Thursday departures.

RESOURCES UPDATE



CONNECT TO COUNTRY DIGITAL MAGAZINE – ISSUE 2

We are very excited to announce that the [second issue](#) of our Discover Aboriginal Experiences digital magazine “Connect to Country” is now out! This issue includes the following story themes:

1. Immerse – Use every sense to experience and immerse yourself in Indigenous culture (Taste, Sleep, Do, See, Read)
2. Island Dreaming – Framing Australia's mainland are dreamy islands that feel worlds away ...
3. Celebrating Culture – Bringing people together through festivals
4. Behind the Canvas – Peek into the heart and soul of Indigenous culture through art

5. Love + Culture – Unique experiences for culture-loving couples
6. The Storyteller – Leading the way with words – uncover the power of storytelling
7. Heart to Heart – Journey deep into the heart of a nation and discover the beat within.

We are seeing great examples of how these publications are being shared, such as including the link on your website and social media promoting as a free publication. We are also always open to ideas you may have including 'white labelling' the publication and sharing via your own networks.



Updated Resources

The following resources have been updated and ready for you to download:

[Portfolio](#) our detailed distribution partner guide

[Flyer](#) available in English, German, Mandarin and Japanese

[Brochure](#) our coffee table style motivational publication

[Media Kit](#) - information that you can re-purpose on your website, social channels, blogs, newsletters

[Storytellers Brochure](#) meet some of our wonderful guides



Aussie Specialist Training Course updated

We have a new updated [Discover Aboriginal Experiences Aussie Specialists Training Course](#) that

we encourage you to complete!

There is also a new Indigenous Training Course to provide you with a deeper understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture.

Complete both the Discover Aboriginal Experiences course and the Indigenous Training Course and you will earn the Aboriginal Australia curriculum badge.

MEMBER FEATURES



Burrawa Indigenous Climb Experience, NSW

BridgeClimb Sydney's newest offering, the [Burrawa Indigenous Climb Experience](#) takes you 134 metres above the water in the company of an Aboriginal guide, revealing the city's most sacred and spiritual First Nations sites, and stories as eye-opening as they are educational.



Firescreek Botanical Winery Aboriginal Experiences, NSW

Fruits, flowers and herbs flavour the distinctive beverages at Firescreek Botanical Winery in Holgate, on the Central Coast. Elder Kevin 'Gavi' Duncan, a captivating storyteller and didgeridoo player, decodes this natural bounty on his [Aboriginal Storytelling and Wine Tasting Experience](#), revealing bush foods and their importance to Indigenous communities.



Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours, WA

[Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours](#) in Kununurra acts as a creative hub for more than 100 artists who screen-print textiles, carve boab tree nuts, create sculptures and paint Miriwoong cultural stories. Artists lead interactive tours of the



Meet a DAE Storyteller – Neville Namarnyilk

There was no Kakadu National Park when Neville Namarnyilk was born. The East Alligator River formed a semi-permanent divide between what is now one of the country's largest national parks, and spiritual Arnhem Land. When

centre and also guide you into their homelands on a Sunset Tour, Mirima National Park tour, and a 4WD tag-along trip through the landscapes that inspire the artists' works.

the river flooded, members of Neville's clan would be cut off from one another.

It's a story Neville recounts as a guide on the [Guluyambi Cultural Cruise](#), a journey that sluices through the murky, crocodile-infested waters of the East Alligator River.

Neville spent his formative years in Kakadu, learning to hunt by the seasons. He joined [Kakadu Cultural Tours](#) as a guide in 2010.

On cruises, Neville recounts his earliest childhood memories. *"It was all Arnhem Land. There was no tourism. Nobody came in. I've been living off the land since I was 13 years old."*

TIPS & ITINERARY IDEAS



HOW TO PURCHASE ABORIGINAL ART ETHICALLY

It seems like such a simple exchange, buying a piece of art from an Aboriginal artist. But there's so much behind it, with far greater impacts

than most people realise.

Without art, many remote Aboriginal communities wouldn't survive. Art is a life source, both culturally and economically, with sales allowing Aboriginal people to remain on their traditional homelands – where other employment opportunities can be scarce – and share culture through their art. That is why ensuring you make an ethical purchase is so important: it can be the difference between whether that artist gets to continue to create, or not.

Cathy Cummins, manager of [Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours](#) in Western Australia's Kimberley region, says there are a number of ways you can feel confident you're making an ethical purchase, where the work is genuine and the artist is fairly paid. "A good way of knowing is asking if the seller is connected to the Indigenous Art Code [a system designed to preserve ethical Indigenous art sales], especially if it's a city gallery," she says. "They need to be able to tell you how much the artist will get. At most art centres, an artist would receive about 60 per cent of the sale." Ethical dealers will be comfortable discussing such topics.

Another thing to check for, Cummins says, is an authenticity document, or a digital label. "We always offer a provenance certificate; it comes with every artwork. It gives you information about the artist and a story about that artwork," says Cummins.

The other thing to consider is whether you buy from a gallery, or from a community-owned art centre like Waringarri Aboriginal Arts & Tours, or [Maruku Arts](#) near Uluru in the Northern Territory.

"Art centres employ local Aboriginal people as arts workers and support the continuation of culture in the community," says Cummins. Purchasing art at one, Cummins adds, "Gives you the opportunity to support Indigenous communities and to help them develop economic independence. You're not just buying the piece of art, you're purchasing the opportunity for the whole community to be employed, because most art centres give 40 per cent of art sale proceeds to the community." Here's what to ask before you buy Aboriginal art:

- What can you tell me about the artist?
- How did the artwork or product come to be in your art centre, gallery or shop?
- How is the artist paid for their work?
- Is your gallery a member of the [Indigenous Art Code](#)?

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES OF AUSTRALIA INSIGHTS



Cultural Attractions of Australia

[Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art \(QAGOMA\)](#) has

recently joined the Cultural Attractions of Australia collective.

[The First Artists Exceptional Indigenous Art & Dining Experience](#) delivers an immersive evening of the unique art and culture of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Ultimate Winery Experiences Australia

[Ultimate Winery Experiences Australia](#) recently welcomed two new members [Hardys Tintara](#) in the McLaren Vale - one of South Australia's oldest wineries and an iconic global entity, and esteemed



Great Walks of Australia/Australian Wildlife Journeys

Murray River Trails (a member of both [Great Walks of Australia](#) and [Australian Wildlife Journeys](#)) recently launched their new luxury houseboat, High River. This custom-designed luxury houseboat provides environmentally sustainable accommodation for Murray River Trail's award-winning ecotourism experiences.



Australian Wildlife Journeys

[Indian Ocean Experiences](#) now offers a [Citizen Science Christmas Island tour](#) – a hands-on way to discover the island's endemic blue-tailed skink and Lister's gecko, which now thrive in the national park... thanks to the work of

Tasmanian winery, [House of Arras](#) situated in the picturesque Pipers River region near Launceston.

naturalists who have pulled the species back from extinction.

Image credit: Yvonne McKenzie, Wondrous World Images

NEWS IN BRIEF

We have been advised that the following tours have ceased operating:

- [Royal Botanic Garden Sydney](#), NSW - FIT Cultural Tour & Bush Foods Experience
- [Kakadu Tourism](#), NT - Footprints of Kakadu
- [Jarramali Rock Art Tours](#), QLD - All tours now depart from Laura – no pick-ups available from Cairns or Port Douglas and 4WD day tour no longer operating.
- [Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia](#) - Mossman Gorge Centre, QLD - Half Day Dreamtime Gorge Walk
- [Worn Gundidj_@_Tower Hill](#) - Guided Twilight Walk
- [Kingfisher Tours, WA](#) - K1ADM + LAC - Purnululu Explorer and Argyle Diamond Mine tour, K1B1 - Bungles Overnight. The following Kingfisher tours are currently unavailable due to Kalumburu remaining a biosecurity zone: K4 - Wandjina Explorer, K4M1 – Mitchell Falls + Wandjina Explorer

Did you know that we have our very own [Discover Aboriginal Experiences YouTube playlist](#)? This playlist features all 46 DAE members, DAE compilation videos and some special feature videos.

Remember the [Signature Experiences of Australia portal](#) allows you to search 700+ premium travel offerings in the 8 collectives, including Discover Aboriginal Experiences.

This communication will be evolving with content, and we always welcome your input on what you would like to have included or feedback, so please let us know via dae@tourism.australia.com.

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