



Art Expedition with Ross Laurie Eastern MacDonnell Ranges, NT

Join artist Ross Laurie for a 6 day painting adventure and wilderness experience in the Remote Northern Territory (July 2 - 7, 2024)

NORTHERN TERRITORY

A land of stark beauty, sacred Aboriginal sites and remote wilderness areas, the Northern Territory has always stood apart from the rest of Australia. Vast deserts, wetlands, monsoonal rains, red-rock gorges, and raging rivers spark the spirit of adventure in those who visit. These same natural features enabled the local Aboriginal people to preserve their traditional way of life. Today, travellers flock here from around the world to see these spectacular sites and learn about the fascinating culture of the tribes who have thrived on this rugged land for thousands of years.

ROSS LAURIE - LANDSCAPE PAINTER

Artist Ross Laurie and his family live on a farm in Walcha, on the Northern Tablelands of NSW between Tamworth and Armidale. Outback Australia and its rugged landscape have inspired his large, chromatically warm and dynamic landscapes. Ross produces an impressive variety of images, from small charcoal sketches to densely worked studies in oil stick, to large oils on canvas.

Ross has been exhibiting in solo and selected group shows since 1981 in commercial and regional galleries around Australia. He was part of the group of 13 high profile Australian Artists who went to Fowlers Gap Research Station in 2012 with Artist Profile Magazine.

Primarily a painter, he has been teaching painting and drawing for twenty five years. His work is a response to the country on and around his farm at Walcha, in northern NSW. Ross Laurie is represented by King Street Gallery, Sydney.



LANDSCAPE PAINTING WORKSHOP

The 5 day workshop focuses on painting and drawing directly from nature. Participants will improve their skills under the guidance of artist and experienced educator, Ross Laurie. During the workshop, Ross will expose the students to a variety of ideas and approaches with a mix of teaching, demonstrations and informal discussions on composition, colour, content, influences and the illusion of space, over meals in the evenings. Learn a new skill or develop new ones in a beautiful and relaxed environment. Non painting partners are very welcome.

EASTERN MACDONNELL RANGES

The MacDonnell Ranges stretch out for hundreds of kilometres on both sides of Alice Springs, like a long, craggy spine, twisting through the countryside. The traditional owners, the Arrernte people, believed giant caterpillars called the Yeperenye formed the Ranges. The area is known for its spectacular natural features, ancient petroglyphs and rugged countryside.

ACCOMMODATION | ROSS RIVER RESORT

Ross River Homestead is situated 83km east of Alice Springs. Based around the original 1890's Loves Creek Homestead, this unique resort offers a variety of accommodation options for your outback

experience. It was first established as an outstation of Undoolya Station and it is thought that the foreman at the nearby Arltunga Gold town built the homestead in 1898. Accommodation includes individual freestanding cabins with ensuite, reverse cycle air-conditioning, bar fridge and tea and coffee facilities. Each cabin sleeps two. There is a choice of twin share or a combination of queen and single. Meals are fully catered with dining in the historic homestead.



6 DAY LANDSCAPE PAINTING RETREAT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY (JULY 2 - 7, 2024)

PRE TRIP COMMENCEMENT: MONDAY JULY 1 - ARRIVE ALICE SPRINGS

Arrange to arrive the day before the workshop commencement, so you can meet with the group early the following morning. This allows for more time spent with Ross to explore the landscape.

DAY 1: TUESDAY JULY 2 - ARRIVE ALICE SPRINGS

Workshop guests will meet in the carpark at the Diplomat Motel in Alice Springs at 10.30am. We will then drive in a convoy of three vehicles to Ross River Station, in the East MacDonnell Ranges. On the way we will explore some interesting landmarks, arriving at the property at 1.30pm for lunch. Just before sunset, we will drive to a spectacular lookout overlooking a striking rock formation called The Sphinx for Sundowners. Followed by dinner and drinks back at the Homestead in front of an open fire where Ross will outline the workshop content over the next 5 days.

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY JULY 3 - ROSS RIVER RESORT

After breakfast, we travel to N'Dhala Gorge Nature Park for a full day of painting. This ruggedly beautiful landscape provides a variety of wonderful subjects to paint. It is an important archaeological and heritage site, home to thousands of prehistoric rock carvings and rare plants. Artist, Ross Laurie will walk you through the bush to find suitable painting locations and assist workshop members individually throughout the day. Lunch and afternoon tea will be provided on location. Dinner and drinks in front of the fire back at the Homestead.

DAY 3: THURSDAY JULY 4 - ROSS RIVER RESORT

Today we travel to Trepkina Gorge Nature Park, where expansive views and a sandy creek bed can be explored via a network of short walking tracks. The largest Ghost Gum (300 years old) in Central Australia sits in the park, alone on a saltbush flat. This park has strong historic links with the early settlement of Central Australia and is a perfect painting location. Lunch will be provided on location. Relax in the evenings in front of the fire, over a drink and informal discussions with Ross on the Principles of Painting.

DAY 4: FRIDAY JULY 5 - ROSS RIVER RESORT

Another very dramatic landscape known as The Ampitheatre will be explored this morning where there is a wide variety of things to paint and draw. After lunch back at the homestead, Ross will give a painting demonstration. Then in the mid afternoon we will be painting at Bloomfield's Bluff on the property, until sunset to capture the radiant glow of the the ranges as they change colour.

DAY 5: SATURDAY JULY 6 - ROSS RIVER RESORT

On our last day of painting, we will travel to the spectacular Seven Sisters on the Ross River property for a day of painting. Lunch will be provided on location. In the afternoon we return to the homestead for a group showing of our work. This is the perfect opportunity to ask questions and get feedback on your work. Tonight will be our last dinner together celebrating a shared creative experience and new friendships.

DAY 6: SUNDAY JULY 7 - ROSS RIVER RESORT TO ALICE SPRINGS

After a relaxing breakfast, we will head back to Alice Springs where our guests will be transferred to the airport to meet their departing flights.

TWIN SHARE PRICE	AUD \$3,437.00
SINGLE ROOM	AUD \$3,920.00
NON PARTICIPATING PARTNER	AUD \$2,830.00

INCLUSIONS:

- INDIVIDUAL TUITION BY RENOWNED LANDSCAPE ARTIST & TUTOR, ROSS LAURIE
- TRANSFER FROM THE DIPLOMAT MOTEL, ALICE SPRINGS TO ROSS RIVER STATION & RETURN VIA THE AIRPORT
- 5 X NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT ROSS RIVER RESORT
- ALL MEALS INCLUDED - BREAKFAST & DINNER AT THE OLD HOMESTEAD, LUNCHESES ON LOCATION
- TRANSPORT IN 4WD VEHICLES X 6 DAYS TO ALL PAINTING LOCATIONS
- PAINTING DEMONSTRATION & ARTIST'S CRITIQUE
- WORKSHOP HOSTED BY KERRI AINSWORTH (ART TRAVEL ADVENTURES FOUNDER)

EXCLUSIONS:

- AIRFARES & TRAVEL INSURANCE
- ALCOHOLIC & SOFT DRINKS
- ART MATERIALS

PLEASE NOTE: This workshop is not suitable for anyone with mobility issues. There is quite a bit of walking on very uneven and rocky ground.

A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$500 IS REQUIRED TO CONFIRM YOUR BOOKING



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