

AISSA Itinerary 2021

Below is the itinerary for your program. Please note that the nature of the program and culture in Arnhem Land is complex, which at times may create the need for events or itineraries to change. However, we are committed to ensuring that you have a fulfilled educational and cultural experience.

Day	Session	Activities
SUNDAY 8 AUGUST (D)	Morning	<p>Travel: Adelaide to Sydney VA0401 – VIRGIN AUSTRALIA 0600 Depart Adelaide Airport 0820 Arrive Sydney Airport</p> <p>Travel: Sydney to Cairns VA1413 – VIRGIN AUSTRALIA 0850 Depart Sydney Airport 1205 Arrive Cairns Airport</p> <p>Travel: Cairns to Gove (Nhulunbuy) TL161 - AIR NORTH 1305 Depart Cairns Airport 1425 Arrive Gove (Nhulunbuy)</p>
	Afternoon	<p>You will be met at Gove Airport by your Culture College Group Leaders. They will then transfer you to the Culture College Accommodation base in Nhulunbuy.</p> <p>Walk to and climb the lookout at Mt Nhulun to see a 360 Degree view of Nhulunbuy and surrounding Arnhem Land. There are information panels on the culture and history of the area.</p> <p><u>Welcome & Orientation</u> During the evening students and staff will take part in team building activities alongside a Culture College induction presentation. There will also be a briefing on their itinerary for the rest of the program.</p> <p>Dinner</p> <p><i>Overnight at Culture College Accommodation Nhulunbuy (Twin share Accommodation)</i></p>

Day	Session	Activities
MONDAY 9 AUGUST (B, L, D)	Morning	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Enjoy a visit to Buku-Larrnggay Mulka (Yirrkala Arts) Centre. Take a tour of this internationally renowned locally owned art centre, and meet with the regions famous artists and historical artworks (including the Yirrkala Church Panels).</p> <p>Visit Shady Beach to gather white clay for use in local traditional ceremonies. This clay is added to supplies which are kept at the Arts Centre for future needs by Yolŋu.</p> <p>Lunch at Shady Beach</p>
	Afternoon	<p>Depart to Nhulunbuy Lagoon Walk (Gayngaru). Learn about bush tucker, bush medicine, dreaming stories and aboriginal conservation and sustainable land management.</p> <p>Dinner</p> <p>After dinner there will be time for reflection and preparing for Homeland visit</p> <p><i>Overnight at Culture College Accommodation Nhulunbuy (Twin shsre Accommodation)</i></p>
TUESDAY 10 AUGUST (B, L, D)	Morning	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Embark on your 3 Day Homeland Tour to Nyinyikay Homeland (Accommodation: Camping)</p> <p>Depart Nhulunbuy for Nyinyikay by 4WD Troopie Vehicles (approximately 3-4 hours)</p> <p>Arrive at Nyinyikay - Traditional Yolŋu welcome to country.</p> <p>Lunch. Meet and interact with community members. Students to help set up camp for the next 3 nights.</p>
	Afternoon	<p>CULTURAL PROGRAM – Examples outlined in Addendum A</p> <p>Lunch/Dinner in camp and evening activities</p> <p><i>Overnight: Nyinyikay Homeland (Tent Accommodation – 4 to 6 per tent)</i></p>
WEDNESDAY 11 AUGUST (B, L, D)	Morning	<p>Breakfast in camp.</p> <p>CULTURAL PROGRAM – Examples outlined in Addendum A</p> <p>Lunch/Dinner in camp and evening activities</p> <p><i>Overnight: Nyinyikay Homeland (Tent Accommodation – 4 to 6 per tent)</i></p>

Day	Session	Activities
THURSDAY 12 AUGUST (B, L, D)		<p>Breakfast in camp.</p> <p>CULTURAL PROGRAM – Examples outlined in Addendum A</p> <p>Lunch/Dinner in camp and evening activities</p> <p><i>Overnight: Nyinyikay Homeland (Tent Accommodation – 4 to 6 per tent)</i></p>
FRIDAY 13 AUGUST (B, L, D)	Morning	<p>Breakfast in camp.</p> <p>Pack bags for trip back to Nhulunbuy.</p> <p>Depart Nyinyikay for Nhulunbuy by 4WD Troopie Vehicles (approximately 3 - 4 hours)</p> <p>Farewell to the Nyinyikay Families.</p>
	Afternoon	<p>Enjoy final activities in Nhulunbuy / Yirrkala.</p> <p>Final Dinner together. Afterwards get together to discuss your time in Arnhem Land and the memories you will bring home with you.</p> <p><i>Overnight at Culture College Accommodation Nhulunbuy (Twin shsre Accommodation)</i></p>
SATURDAY 14 AUGUST (B)	Morning	<p>Breakfast at Culture College</p> <p>Depart Culture College for return journey home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">END OF PROGRAM</p> <p>Travel: Gove to Cairns TL160 - AIR NORTH 0930 Depart Gove Airport (Nhulunbuy) 1145 Arrive Cairns Airport</p> <p>Travel: Cairns to Sydney VA1418 – VIRGIN AUSTRALIA 1240 Depart Cairns Airport 1535 Arrive Sydney Airport</p> <p>Travel: Cairns to Sydney VA1426 – VIRGIN AUSTRALIA 1810 Depart Sydney Airport 1750 Arrive Adelaide Airport</p>

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM – ADDENDUM A

OVERVIEW

- Interaction with children and elders of Nyinyikay Homeland
- Learn about the differences between homelands and communities including language, bush foods & medicines, totems and dreaming stories.
- Learn and participate in a culture that has existed for over 60,000 years
- Come with open hearts and minds and you will leave with a wealth of knowledge about the country you live in.

ACTIVITIES

Please find a list of some of the cultural exchange activities that may take place during your Culture College Program.

Time works very differently in East Arnhem Land. We run on our hosts time so timings of activities are fluid and depend on a wide range of factors. Please note that we will work with your group to make this an experience of a lifetime, however patience and flexibility is a big part of creating that success. Culture College will aim to allocate a mix of these components into our Cultural Exchange Program but note that not all will be possible and will depend on aspects of community life at the time of this program.

YOLŊU LANGUAGE LESSONS:

- Students are introduced to initial words and phrases and learn how to meet & greet each other.
- Students learn phrases about family and general well-being and practice phrases in pairs.
- Students learn about flora and fauna and how to count.

YOLŊU SIGN LANGUAGE LESSONS:

- Learning how to sign important words and play games including making skits in sign language that the other students have to guess and interpret.

KINSHIP STRUCTURES:

- Education on kinship system of the Yolŋu (including learning about Yirritja and Dhuwa)
- Learn about Gender roles
- Students are given their Aboriginal Skin Name

PREPARING DINNER AND MAKING FIRE:

- Students will learn how the Yolŋu have made fires for thousands of years using the friction method
- Learn how to make damper the traditional way

DREAMING STORIES:

- Dreaming stories pass on important knowledge, cultural values and belief systems to later generations.
- Through song, dance, painting and storytelling, which express the dreaming stories, the Yolŋu have maintained a link with the Dreaming from ancient times to today.
- Students will have the opportunity to listen to some of the dreaming stories of the local area and the chance to learn their significance

PREPARATION OF PANDANUS LEAVES FOR BASKET WEAVING:

- For thousands of years women have collected Gunga (pandanus leaves used for weaving) and woven them into baskets.
- Students will learn to collect Gunga (pandanus leaves), prepare them and dye them in preparation for basket weaving.

BASKET WEAVING:

- Students will weave their prepared pandanus leaves into a small item that they will take home with them.



- The process, which may often take weeks, will take a few days during their stay.
- Story-telling and sharing is part of the process as much as making a finished product.

SPEAR MAKING:

- Two main trees are used to make spear's (Gara) – malwan and gutpa. The men will only take one or two of the trees to care for the land. A tree of good height is measured – men hold their arms apart and measure the trunk from fingertip to fingertip.
- This makes a spear the right height for the maker. The Lirra (prongs) must be even to make it strong
- Students will learn about this process and make the spear thrower that will help target their spears

DANCING:

- Learning and participation in a full traditional dance or Bungul.
- Students will learn the history and significance of the dance and the basic steps.