

Kimberley Painting and Drawing Workshop with Judith White 2024 – July 22 - 29

ITINERARY^

Day 1 July 22

On The Verandah guides will pick you up in four wheel drive vehicles between 10 and 11.05am from your accommodation or the airport in Kununurra before driving out to the Aboriginal community where we spend the first three days. We'll be joined by a resident of the community and formally welcomed to their idyllic home. Once settled in to your fully-equipped tent accommodation, set up your work area and dive into some art sessions with your tutor, Judith. A spacious, open-sided facility flanked by pandanus salmon gums is provided so you can work in comfort. After lunch you might opt for a cooling swim in the natural spring-fed waterhole. Later we gather for dinner and sit around the fire under the clearest imaginable field of stars.

Day 2 July 23

Take a pre-breakfast hike with Judith and your On The Verandah guide up a gorge to the source of the community spring or savour a quiet cuppa enjoying the sights and sounds of morning in the valley. Spend the day exploring and capturing the surroundings, immersing in painting demonstrations and activities with Judith. A late afternoon hike to the lookout is a must. Complimentary welcome bubbles and nibbles will be waiting on your return! After dinner, sit around the fire and marvel at the stars before hitting the hay.

Day 3 July 24

You have a full day to paint with Judith, flesh out on your ideas and absorb her demonstrations, all the while immersing in the natural beauty of the valley.

Day 4 July 25

We pack up this morning and head out to the working cattle station, Digger's Rest, where we'll spend the remaining four nights. We travel via the Ramsar wetlands known as Marlgu Billabong to delight in some world class birdwatching and maybe spot a crocodile. A lookout with views of the five mighty rivers that flow into the Cambridge Gulf sits high above Wyndham and is the perfect spot for our picnic lunch. The lookout and is regarded as one of the best in the north. Remember reading "Kings in Grass Castles" by Mary Durack? After lunch we'll wind our way down to Wyndham's historic port area, past the site of Paddy Durack's 1885 store, the old hospital and Lee Tong's store. The road to the station spans a variety of landscapes including vast sweeps of marsh, savannah dotted with boab trees and intermittent glimpses of the King River where broлга and jabiru may be seen. At the station, you'll meet the owners and have a cup of tea before we show you to your Bush Hut or Bunkhouse room accommodation. After dinner it's time to sit around the fire and share a yarn.

Day 5 July 26

We leave very early this morning to catch the light at a painting site 10 minutes from the station, where Boab trees of all ages fringe a slatey creek bed. Grab yourself a hot billy tea to drink while you paint as the landscape comes to life for another day. Spot a nesting Brown Falcon, or one of Australia's most remarkably coloured birds – the Gouldian Finch, among the many finches. Spend the rest of the morning in painting mode with Judith under the shady verandahs at the station until mid afternoon when we'll drive out for sunset drinks and you can capture classic golden hour photos (or a quick painting) before we head back for dinner.

Day 6 July 27

After breakfast we climb up the rocks to view a large gallery of Aboriginal rock paintings then Judith leads a painting session beside a waterlily-filled billabong. It's back to the station for lunch and you'll find by this stage you have loads of reference material to keep you going well into the afternoon in the bush studio with Judith.

Day 7 July 28

It's a day to consolidate all that you've been working so far. Continue painting with Judith until after lunch, wrapping up mid-afternoon to hang the informal exhibition. Come dressed in your "Kimberley finest" for a final night party with complimentary bubbles and nibbles to celebrate and enjoy the amazing works created by you and the group.

Day 8 July 29

You'll have an easy morning to capture some photos, say goodbyes and write your farewell message on the bar wall! We leave at 9.30am to ensure we are in Kununurra by midday. We'll go for lunch at one of Kununurra's picturesque cafes** then drop you at the airport for your afternoon flight* or at your accommodation for the next part of your Kimberley adventure.

^Itineraries are provided as a guide. We reserve the right to vary the itinerary. **Café lunch is at the guest's expense. *Select a flight that leaves Kununurra after 1pm.