

“Namatjira Country”

“Sketching with Pen, Ink, and Watercolour” with popular Australian Artist

Leonie Norton

Saturday 01 to Friday 07 July 2017 (7 Days)

\$3,920 pp (Single Supp \$750)

Limited numbers, non-painters welcome

Capture some of Australia’s most stunning landscapes and natural features on this amazing tour of Namatjira Country. Sketch and paint majestic gorges, rolling hills and mountains, crisp white gum trees and much, much more!



Included:

- Flights Perth – Alice Springs – Perth (other departures on request)
- Daily sketching guidance
- Balloon flight over MacDonnell Ranges (own expense)
- Alice Springs Telegraph Station
- Araluen Cultural Centre
- Arltunga Historical Reserve
- West MacDonnell Ranges
- Simpson’s Gap
- Glen Helen Gorge
- Helicopter flight over Glen Helen Gorge (own expense)
- Ormiston Gorge
- Motel-style accommodation
- Most meals

Leonie Norton is an international artist, author, and ardent traveller, taking travel sketching art groups both overseas and within Australia for over ten years. She shares her enthusiasm and knowledge to teach people of all skill levels. Her extensive experience makes this popular watercolour tutor highly in demand. Her articles appear regularly in Australian Artist magazine, Artists’ Palette, Back to Basics, and Drawing and Inspiration.

This award winning artist is also one of Australia’s most prominent and highly qualified botanical educators, is past President of the Botanical Art Society of Australia and has been educating art students for nearly twenty years. Examples of her colourful sketches are found on: www.holidaysketching.com.au



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Reserve your
seat now!



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- Day 1
Sat 01 Jul** Arrive in Alice Springs where we are met by our Aussie Redback Tours team and transferred to our accommodation. After settling in, we meet our tutor, Leonie Norton for welcome drinks and nibbles, followed by our first dinner together. Overnight in Alice Springs.
- Day 2
Sun 02 Jul** Today you have the opportunity to take an early morning balloon flight over the spectacular MacDonnell Ranges (own expense – approx. \$315 pp). After breakfast we head to Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve. This location marks the original site of the first European settlement in Alice Springs. It was established in 1871 to relay messages between Darwin and Adelaide and linked with an underwater cable network to London, England, establishing the first real communication between Australia and England. There are lots of lovely buildings and surrounding countryside to paint here, and Leonie will give you all the instructions you need to capture your surroundings in your artwork.
- After lunch we head back to Alice Springs to visit Araluen Cultural Centre and the Albert Namatjira Gallery. Breakfast, morning tea, lunch and dinner provided today. Overnight in Alice Springs.
- Day 3
Mon 03 Jul** We start the day with a short drive to Arltunga Historical Homestead Reserve, viewing classic *Namatjira Country* views along the way. Arltunga was officially Central Australia's first town, born out of a gold rush. In 1887 alluvial gold was discovered in a dry creek bed downstream of Paddys Rockhole. Fortune seekers had to travel 600 kms from Oodnadatta railhead, often on foot. The area once supported up to 300 people. Plenty of time for all-day painting today, with a chance to sketch historical ruins in front of some lovely central Australia landscape. Morning tea, afternoon tea, lunch and national park entry provided. Dinner free in Alice Springs tonight, so why not try out a meal at the casino or nearby restaurants. Overnight in Alice Springs.
- Day 4
Tue 04 Jul** We pack our gear and take a short drive today straight to Simpsons Gap and the MacDonnell Ranges. Simpsons Gap is a stunning gorge carved out of the West MacDonnell Ranges and is also part of an important spiritual site to the Arrernte Aboriginal people, where several dreaming trails and stories cross. It is also renowned as a place to see black footed rock wallabies, so keep your eyes peeled! We spend most of the day here so you'll have plenty of time to get some sketching tips from Leonie and create your own masterpieces as you get lost in the magic of this beautiful place.
- Later in the afternoon we head off to Glen Helen Resort for a 3 night stay. Breakfast, morning tea, lunch and dinner provided today. Overnight at Glen Helen Homestead.
- Day 5
Wed 05 Jul** Today we stay put! Glen Helen Homestead is right in front of Glen Helen Gorge and you have the opportunity to sit on your porch and sketch what is in front of you! You can take your time choosing other locations along the river, setting up wherever you like, watching the ever-changing colours on the gorge as the day progresses. Leonie will provide plenty of one-on-one discussions on how you can capture the essence of this beautiful place. There is also the opportunity for a helicopter flight over the gorge (at your own expense) today. Breakfast and dinner provided. Overnight at Glen Helen Homestead.
- Day 6
Thu 06 Jul** Today we take a short journey to nearby Ormiston Gorge, where we won't know where to start when it comes to subject matter! The choices are endless – orange gorges, crystal reflections, grand old gum trees, birdlife, wildlife and more! Breakfast, morning tea, lunch and dinner provided today. Overnight at Glen Helen Resort. In the evening we enjoy drinks and nibbles with a show and tell of all the work we produced each day. Who knows, you may end up selling a painting or two to other guests at the resort! Overnight at Glen Helen Resort.
- Day 7
Fri 07 Jul** Unfortunately, all good tours must come to an end and we part our ways today, taking with us memories captured in our art, photos, and hearts and new friends have been made. We need to be up bright and early today to get to the airport in Alice Springs for our flight home. (Those who are not flying back to Perth will have spare time in Alice to do some more shopping or sightseeing).