



East MacDonnell Ranges





Options to check out:

For Aboriginal Art see Emily and Jessie Gaps. Just 15km from Alice Springs, you'll reach Emily Gap where you can see a large rock painting depicting the caterpillar dreaming. Continue on for another 7kms and reach Jessie Gap. Both are amazing spots to lay out a blanket and enjoy a picnic! For more Aboriginal culture, get back on the Ross Highway to come across Corroboree Rock – a sacred men's site in Arrernte culture.

For walking trails and nature follow the Ross Highway until you reach the turnoff to Trephina Gorge Nature Park. In the park you will be spoilt for options of walking trails in Trephina Gorge and John Hayes Rockhole. Our top pick is the Panorama walk which is a 2.5km loop with amazing scenic views. The park is also home to the largest Ghost Gum in Australia. With so much to do and see opt to spend the night here in the designated camping areas.

After a 4WD adventure with creek crossings? Head out to N'Dhala Gorge which offers 6000 ancient petroglyphs (rock engravings) that trace the Arrernte people's history of the land. Camping is available here. Or drive out to the beautiful Ruby Gap which is about 45km from Arltunga and comprises of several gorges to explore!

For history visit the Arltunga Historical Reserve, Central Australia's first town. Here you can explore gold mines, the police station and jail. Opt to stay out at the Hale River Homestead at Old Ambalindum for exceptional outback accommodation.

For something closer to town, a crowd favourite is the amazing Earth Sanctuary World Nature Centre which offers a gourmet BBQ dinner and show or an astronomy tour. This is one experience not to be missed!