New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Toolkit
Minister’s Introduction

ABOUT THE NEW SOUTH WALES ABORIGINAL TOURISM TOOLKIT

New South Wales is home to Australia’s largest Aboriginal population represented by more than 80 different Tribal Groups each with a unique story to tell. With such cultural diversity on offer, New South Wales can offer visitors some of the most accessible and vibrant Aboriginal cultural tourism experiences in the country.

From ancient Songlines and Dreaming stories to native bush medicines and bush tucker, New South Wales Aboriginal tourism operators offer visitors deep and diverse experiences with the potential to create life-changing memories. With links to generations of Aboriginal people who have access to thousands of years of accumulated knowledge, wisdom and lore, these operators can offer visitors authentic and unique cultural encounters.

Aboriginal tourism businesses are an important feature of New South Wales’ diverse tourism offering, becoming increasingly popular with both domestic and international visitors of all ages. In the year ending September 2016, 394,000 domestic and international visitors participated in an Aboriginal cultural tourism offering in New South Wales – up 50 per cent on the previous year.

Featuring more than 50 Aboriginal products, the New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Toolkit is a valuable resource which enables the tourism industry to connect with New South Wales Aboriginal tourism operators, who are best placed to provide cultural information and deliver authentic cultural experiences.

The toolkit is one of the ongoing actions under the New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan which recognises that developing partnerships not only encourages understanding through cross-cultural exchange but also broadens target audiences, boosts travel packaging opportunities and adds value to the overall tourism experience.

I encourage the tourism industry to embrace this toolkit and to work with New South Wales Aboriginal tourism operators and Destination NSW to contribute to the continued success and long-term viability of Aboriginal tourism in the State.

Adam Marshall MP
Minister for Tourism and Major Events
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## Disclaimer

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Cover photograph by Dee Kramer - Gundabooka National Park
Aboriginal Tourism in New South Wales

While Aboriginal people in New South Wales generally live in a contemporary environment, they hold strong links to the traditions associated with custodianship of their ‘Country’ or tribal boundaries and connections to their saltwater (coastal) or freshwater (inland) Dreaming.

The Dreaming (or Dreamtime) incorporates the past, present and future. A vast network of Dreamings or Songlines exist like a giant cobweb across the continent, linking neighbouring groups in sharing aspects of specific stories and totems that are celebrated in large ceremonial gatherings. A totem can be a bird, animal, plant or rock symbolising the group’s sacred emblem. These sacred symbols never change and are said to have been chosen by ancestral spirits.

Each Aboriginal person is intricately connected to Country through one or more of these ancestral Dreaming cycles. These incorporate both the law and the person’s spirituality. Just as Aboriginal people care for their family, they are obliged to care for their ancestral spirits who are alive in their Country. A key part of Aboriginal life is to learn the Dreaming stories through travel, song, ritual, story and art.

Ceremony is also an integral part of Aboriginal life and can take many different forms such as Corroboree. These can entail dramatic representations of Dreaming stories using song, dance, mime, clapsticks and the didgeridoo.

While many ceremonies and stories associated with Country and Dreaming are sacred and secret, New South Wales Aboriginal communities, led by their Elders, are becoming more prepared to share some insights into this fascinating culture as a means to ensuring its survival.

There are many opportunities for visitors to be immersed in Aboriginal culture through tours, attractions, performances and events. In Sydney, this dynamic living culture can be experienced with a performance by Bangarra Dance Theatre at the Sydney Opera House or on a Rocks Dreaming Tour with a walkabout tour that reveals the city’s history through Aboriginal eyes. An Aboriginal guide at Barangaroo Headland Reserve will explain how native plants are used for bush foods and medicine while the Nura Diya Aboriginal Discovery Tour at Taronga Zoo investigates the strong link between Aboriginal people and Australia’s native wildlife.

Authentic cultural experiences can also be found further afield in Regional New South Wales. The two-night Ngaran Ngaran - Gulaga Creation Tour on the South Coast is a fascinating journey into Gulaga Mountain and the Creation Dreaming, of sacred significance for the local Yuin Aboriginal people for thousands of years. Harry Nanya Outback Tours and Tri State Safaris will unlock Aboriginal cultural heritage amidst the awe-inspiring landscapes of remote New South Wales’ Outback national parks.

From a tourism industry perspective, the best way for visitors to ensure authenticity, is to use products that are Aboriginal-owned and-guided or have substantial Aboriginal control and involvement. This toolkit provides a platform for the tourism industry to connect visitors with these vibrant, life-changing experiences, which have been celebrated for over 60,000 thousand years.
Cultural Considerations in Tourism

Aboriginal tourism operators face a unique set of cultural considerations in finding harmony between tourism, culture and the environment, and achieving the appropriate balance between cultural integrity and responsiveness to market demands.

Specific matters relating to authenticity and consultation need to be considered when doing business with Aboriginal tourism operators.

- As decision-making tends to involve more than one person, sufficient time should be allowed for consultation. For example, a specific itinerary or alterations to an itinerary may require permission from the traditional owners of the land to access historic and cultural sites.
- Respect for the laws and customs of the area is essential; for example, some cultural sites may be traditionally a women’s-only or men’s-only area.
- Only local or endorsed Indigenous people can act as guides for their own cultural experiences.
- At certain times of the year specific ceremonies and religious practices should be respected and observed. For example, a period of ‘sorry business’ takes place after someone has passed away and involves a period of mourning in the local community.
- The right of Aboriginal people to keep secret and sacred their cultural knowledge should be respected. Stories should not be retold, published or paraphrased by people who are not the owners of the story without permission from the traditional owners.
- It is now common at the beginning of a tour program, event or conference for proceedings to begin with a ‘Welcome to Country’ which is performed by an Aboriginal Elder from a local group. An official ‘Welcome to Country’ is a traditional ceremony offering safe passage to visitors and offers insight into the local Aboriginal communities’ connection to the local environment ‘Country’. Aboriginal tourism products showcased in this toolkit can assist in connecting with the appropriate Elders to present an official ‘Welcome to Country’.

Authenticity of Souvenirs and Artefacts

Authentic Australian Aboriginal bark paintings, musical instruments and other artefacts are not just souvenirs. An Aboriginal-crafted didgeridoo for playing or a boomerang for throwing is different to the souvenir versions which are purely decorative and not functional. Genuine Aboriginal artefacts should only be bought from a registered and recognised gallery or co-operative and be signed and authenticated as such. In the case of paintings they will be signed by the artist.

It is important to find out where to buy authentic Aboriginal art at public and commercial art galleries in Sydney and around New South Wales. The choice is endless - from dot paintings to paintings on bark, contemporary art and sculptures made from hand-dyed and desert grasses, reflecting the lives and attitudes of Aboriginal people today. Authentic arts and crafts can be sourced from the businesses featured in the Galleries and Exhibitions fact sheets within this toolkit.
Aboriginal Export Ready Tour Products
In New South Wales*

Criteria for Aboriginal New South Wales Export Ready Tour Products in NSW
- Offers an experience which is delivered by an Australian Indigenous person
- Has a current registered business trading name and ABN or CAN
- Holds public liability insurance and all relevant permits and licences
- Issues commissionable rates for 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018

*As at date of publishing
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ABORIGINAL BLUE MOUNTAINS WALKABOUT

OVERVIEW
Aboriginal owned and guided, this inspiring and educational bushwalk into the Dreamtime will give deep understanding of the traditional, local Darug culture.

Aboriginal guide, Evan Yanna Muru, shares the original methods of learning on the ancient quest of walkabout. The Songline (story of place) leads through secluded wild bush and rainforest to sacred sites of the Dreamtime.

INCLUSIONS
- Fully-guided tours with Evan Yanna Muru
- Six hours among nature
- Two hours of walking (3.5 km medium grade)
- Four hours of learning, relaxation and interpretive activities

FEATURES
- An Aboriginal owned-and-guided tour
- Discover ancient ceremonial sites and rock art, learn about bush medicine and taste bush tucker
- Connect with the Dreamtime through story art, ritual and dance

WHAT TO BRING
- Day pack, hat and sunscreen, lunch, rain jacket, water, swim wear, camera

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
- Departs daily
- Starts and finishes on Faulconbridge Railway Station, Blue Mountains
- Book online and allow up to eight hours for confirmation

CONTACT
Evan Yanna Muru, Owner
t: +61 408 443 822
e: walkaboutguide@yahoo.com
w: www.bluemountainswalkabout.com
BUNDYI CULTURAL TOURS – TASTES OF WIRADJURI LAND

OVERVIEW

Bundyi Cultural Tours specialises in sharing Aboriginal culture on full-day bus tours in the Riverina, near Wagga Wagga in southern NSW. The tours are conducted by Mark Saddler, a proud Wiradjuri man.

The Tastes of Wiradjuri Land allows visitors to learn about the oldest people and culture in the universe on a full-day tour aboard a 23-seater air-conditioned bus. Visitors have the opportunity to touch, taste and connect with this amazing ancient land.

INCLUSIONS

• Fully-guided tours with Wiradjuri Man, Mark Saddler
• Learn about Wiradjuri culture and language
• Visit special Wiradjuri places

FEATURES

• Camp fire morning tea and guided tour at Junee Licorice & Chocolate Factory
• Light lunch and guided tour at the Coolamon Cheese Factory
• Wiradjuri designed and dated mini bargan (boomerang) created by Mark Saddler

WHAT TO BRING

• Walking shoes, hat, camera and the attitude to learn and have fun

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION

• Pick-up and drop-off to major motels in Wagga Wagga, New South Wales
• Wagga Wagga has a regional airport with daily flights from Sydney and Melbourne
• Wagga is also serviced by a country railway service. It is four hours’ drive from Sydney and Melbourne, and two and a half hours’ drive from Canberra.

CONTACT

Mark Saddler, Owner
t: +61 412 693 030
e: marksad@live.com.au
w: www.bundyculture.com.au
BUNDYI CULTURAL TOURS – SPECIAL PLACES TOUR

OVERVIEW
Bundyi Cultural Tours specialise in sharing Aboriginal culture on full-day bus tours in the Riverina, near Wagga Wagga in southern NSW. The tours are conducted by Mark Saddler, a proud Wiradjuri man.

The Special Places Tour allows visitors to discover and learn about the oldest people and culture in the universe on a full-day tour aboard a 23-seater air-conditioned bus. Visitors have the opportunity to touch, taste and connect with this amazing ancient land.

INCLUSIONS
• Fully-guided tours with Wiradjuri Man, Mark Saddler
• All full-day tours include morning tea, lunch (kangaroo sausages and fresh garden salads) and bottled drinking water
• Learn about Wiradjuri culture and language
• Visit special Wiradjuri places

FEATURES
• Practical demonstrations of the art of traditional tool-making
• Touch and taste bush tucker
• A Wiradjuri design and dated mini bargan (boomerang) designed/painted by Mark Saddler

WHAT TO BRING
• Walking shoes, hat, camera and the attitude to learn and have fun

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Pick-up and drop-off to major motels in Wagga Wagga, New South Wales
• Wagga Wagga has a regional airport with daily flights from Sydney and Melbourne
• Wagga is also serviced by a country railway service. It is four hours’ drive from Sydney and Melbourne, and two and a half hours’ drive from Canberra.

CONTACT
Mark Saddler, Owner
t: +61 412 693 030
e: marksad@live.com.au
w: www.bundyculture.com.au
DREAMTIME
SOUTHERN X - THE ROCKS DREAMING TOUR

OVERVIEW
The Dreamtime Southern X, The Rocks Dreaming Aboriginal Heritage Tour is Aboriginal-owned and developed by Aboriginal Elder Margret Campbell, who has given her permission for Aboriginal guides to share her cultural knowledge.

A leisurely walkabout in The Rocks uncovers the authentic history of the Aboriginal people’s saltwater heritage within Sydney Harbour, their land and water use and their spiritual connection to the adjoining waterways and foreshores.

INCLUSIONS
• One-and-a-half hour leisurely walkabout with an Aboriginal guide in The Rocks
• Local Aboriginal greeting spoken in traditional language
• Opportunity to handle cultural objects and materials

FEATURES
• Fully-guided tours with Margret Campbell ("Muughi"), raised at Burnt Bridge in Dunghutti Country
• An understanding of the connection between modern Sydney and the Aboriginal Dreaming of the Sydney area

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen, water, wet weather clothes (on rainy days)

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Tour departs from Cadmans Cottage, 110 George Street, The Rocks
• Tours operate from 10.30am to 12noon and run for one-and-a-half hours
• Group bookings or requests for exclusive times are available; additional costs apply

CONTACT
Margret Campbell, Director
t: +61 2 9517 4390
m: +61 428 661 019
e: bookings@dreamtimesouthernx.com.au
w: www.dreamtimesouthernx.com.au

New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Toolkit
HARRY NANYA TOURS

OVERVIEW
Visit the site of one of the most significant archaeological finds in Australia with traditional Paakantyi man, Graham Clarke, owner and operator of Harry Nanya Tours.

Journey through the World Heritage-listed Mungo National Park where remarkable archaeological finds point to human occupation by Aboriginal people, dating back over 40,000 years. Visitors will feel the presence of the past while walking with one of our local Paakantyi tour guides, explaining all the significant sites.

INCLUSIONS
- National Park entry fees
- Scenic tour through the Willandra Lakes region to the red sand plains of Mungo National Park
- The tour is enhanced by home-cooked meals served outdoors with views of Lake Mungo’s dry lake bed

FEATURES
- Includes a two kilometre walk around the Walls of China formation
- A visit to the Lake Mungo Information Centre, Historic Woolshed and Mungo Lookout which looks out over the vast expanse of Lake Mungo
- Discoveries in the area include stone tools, grinders for making flour, a stone axe head, middens with shells, fish bones and evidence of hearths

WHAT TO BRING
- Hat, good walking shoes, camera, water and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
- Day tours and sunset tours
- Full-day tours operate daily in the cooler months and in the afternoon through evening in the warmer months
- Pick-up and drop-off from accommodation in Mildura, Victoria or Wentworth, New South Wales.

CONTACT
Graham Clarke, Owner
t: +61 (03) 5027 2076
e: info@harrynanyatours.com.au
w: www.harrynanyatours.com.au
NGARAN NGARAN
CULTURE AWARENESS
– DJIRRIGANJ
DREAMING TOUR

OVERVIEW
Established in 2011, this Aboriginal-owned and-operated tour company is located in Narooma on the NSW South Coast. Lead guide is Dwayne ‘Naja’ Bannon-Harrison who has more than 17 years of experience, along with nine generations of cultural teachings which have been passed down.

The Djirriganj Dreaming Tour is a two-day and two-night tour, visiting sacred sites in the comfort of an air-conditioned mini-bus. Visitors will be immersed in Yuin country, visiting sacred sites and will hear and see stories of land, kinship and dreaming - the perfect environment to explore and experience Aboriginal culture.

INCLUSIONS
• Traditional welcome and dinners, sunrise beach ceremonies with breakfasts
• Guided full-day bus/site tour of Bermagui, Tathra and Bega Valley, including lunch
• Two nights’ accommodation at Island View Resort, Narooma (shared or private)

FEATURES
• Participate and witness traditional Aboriginal ceremony, dance, yidaki (didgeridoo), and yarning circles
• Walk and experience Yuin Djirringanj Country from an ancient cultural way of knowing
• Learn about the Yuin people’s creation story and the Aboriginal Dreamtime, history and culture

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, a backpack, sunscreen, hat and water bottle

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Tour meeting point is Island View Resort, Narooma
• Airport transfers are available for additional cost from Moruya, Sydney and Canberra airports
• Tours start Friday at 7pm and finish on Sunday at 11am. See website for tour departure dates
• Exclusive group bookings are available on request.

CONTACT
Dwayne Bannon-Harrison, Director
t: +61 408 272 121
e: info@ngaranaboriginalculture.com
w: www.ngaranaboriginalculture.com
NGARAN NGARAN
CULTURE AWARENESS
– GULAGA CREATION TOUR

OVERVIEW
Established in 2011, this Aboriginal-owned and-operated tour company is located in Narooma on the NSW South Coast. Lead guide is Dwayne ‘Naja’ Bannon-Harrison who has more than 17 years of experience, along with nine generations of cultural teachings which have been passed down.

The Gulaga Creation Tour is a 40-hour experience that centres around a full day sacred walking journey on Gulaga Mountain, participation in traditional ceremonies and teachings of the local dreaming stories.

INCLUSIONS
• Traditional welcome and dinner
• Sunrise beach ceremony and breakfast
• Farewell beach ceremony and breakfast
• Two nights’ accommodation at Island View Resort (shared or private)

FEATURES
• Participate and witness traditional Aboriginal ceremony, dance, yidaki (didgeridoo), and yarning circles
• Walk and experience the sacred Gulaga Mountain from an ancient cultural way of knowing
• Gourmet bush tucker dinner and yarning circle

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, a backpack, sunscreen, hat and water bottle

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Tour meeting point is Island View Resort, Narooma
• Airport transfers are available for additional cost from Moruya Sydney and Canberra airports
• Tours start Friday at 7pm and finish on Sunday at 11am. See website for tour departure dates
• Exclusive group bookings are available on request
• Please note: reasonable fitness is required to undertake the walk.

CONTACT
Dwayne Bannon-Harrison, Director
t: +61 408 272 121
e: info@ngaranaboriginalculture.com
w: www.ngaranaboriginalculture.com
SAND DUNE ADVENTURES

OVERVIEW
Sand Dune Adventures (SDA) is a not-for-profit organisation owned and operated by the Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council. SDA gives a ‘hands-on and interactive’ insight into the richness of Aboriginal culture and heritage all the while providing an exhilarating ride on a 400cc quad bike.

SDA offers a quad bike experience like no other. Take in the magnificence of the Worimi Sand Dunes on Stockton Beach, riding from bush to beach with expert Aboriginal guides.

INCLUSIONS
• 400cc quad bike hire
• Helmet and hi-vis safety equipment
• Experienced guides including an Aboriginal tour guide

FEATURES
• No quad bike experience is necessary
• Access to the largest sand dunes in Port Stephens
• All tours are tailored to meet the needs and experience of clients

WHAT TO BRING
Sand Dune Adventures requires that all passengers wear:
• Long pants
• Enclosed shoes
• Sunglasses for self-protection
• Wet weather gear and change of clothes if there is a possibility of rain

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Departs daily with regular one-hour, one and a half-hour and two-hour tours
• Tours depart from the Murrok Centre, 2163 Nelson Bay Road, Williamtown
  New South Wales

CONTACT
Joanna Smith, Sales Manager
t: +61 (0) 2 4033 8808
e: sda@worimi.org.au
w: www.sandduneadventures.com.au
AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM
INDIGENOUS TOUR PACKAGES

OVERVIEW
The Australian Museum is the oldest museum in Australia and houses the largest natural science and cultural collection in the country. There are more than 18 million objects representing the environmental and cultural histories of the Australian and Pacific regions, allowing visitors to enjoy an Indigenous Australian experience right in the heart of Sydney.

An interactive experience includes a traditional didgeridoo and dance performance followed by a personalised, guided tour of the Museum’s Indigenous Australians exhibition.

INCLUSIONS
• General admission and tour of Indigenous Australians exhibition
• Engaging, interactive experience while exploring the diverse beliefs and lifestyles of Australia’s First Nations People
• Commentary and explanation of the Indigenous exhibitions by an Aboriginal educator

FEATURES
• The highlight of the package is a traditional didgeridoo and dance performance in the state-of-the-art-theatrette
• Opportunities to meet and take photos with the Indigenous performers

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Tour departs from the main entrance
• Group bookings only: eight guests minimum, 80 maximum
• Tours operate from: 9.45am to 11.45am and run for two hours
• Bookings must be made in advance -7 days a week from 9.30am – 5.00pm.

CONTACT
Carole Ann Betts, Sales Manager
t: +61 2 9320 6277
e: Carole-Ann.Betts@austrmus.gov.au
w: www.australianmuseum.net.au/event/tour-fst-packages
BARANGAROO CULTURAL TOURS

OVERVIEW
Renowned environmental educator Clarence Slockee is leading Barangaroo’s program of Aboriginal Cultural Tours which explore the site’s rich Aboriginal history and cultural significance.

Visitors to Barangaroo Reserve are able to connect with the world’s oldest living culture with a hands-on educational tour by one of Barangaroo’s Aboriginal Visitor Services Guides.

INCLUSIONS
- The tours provide an in-depth explanation of the Aboriginal history of Sydney Harbour and surrounds and its significance to Aboriginal Australians
- Guides share the stories of Australia’s First Nations People and, in particular, the clans of the Eora Nation
- Hear stories about native plants used to create Barangaroo Reserve which were used for food, fibre, tools and weapons

FEATURES
- Barangaroo Reserve is the only large public park in Sydney which is exclusively planted with native vegetation
- Learn how the tools and weapons were used
- Learn about Sydney’s sandstone and the importance of ochres in traditional Aboriginal art and ceremony

WHAT TO BRING
- Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
- Tour departs from the Munn Street Reserve Entrance
- Tours operate from: 10.30am to 12noon and run for one-and-a-half hours
- Group bookings or requests for exclusive times are available - additional costs apply.

CONTACT
Clarence Slockee, Team Leader
t: +61 2 9255 1700
e: info@barangaroo.com
w: www.barangaroo.sydney/whats-on/guided-tours/
ECO TREASURES – INDIGENOUS TOUR

OVERVIEW
Eco Treasures specialises in Eco Tourism experiences on Sydney’s Northern Beaches from Manly to Palm Beach and into Ku-ring-gai Chase and Sydney Harbour national parks, New South Wales, Australia.

Eco Treasures offer an easily accessible urban Indigenous guided tour in Sydney. Head out along the shores of Sydney Harbour to check out ancient middens and rock engravings in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.

INCLUSIONS
- Learn about Aboriginal culture with an expert guide whilst hearing the amazing stories about the landscape and the culture.
- Return train ticket or day tour options with transport included
- Morning tea snacks

FEATURES
- Bush and coastal walking in Sydney National Parks
- Try your hand with the clapping sticks and learn about traditional native bush medicines and foods.

WHAT TO BRING
- Comfortable walking shoes

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
- Tour departure as requested for each tour. Hotel pick up possible
- Tour duration; as requested.

CONTACT
Damien McClellan, Owner
t: +61 415 121 648
e: info@ecotreasures.com.au or call
w: www.ecotreasures.com.au
MY DETOUR – NGURRUMPAA DREAMTIME DETOUR

OVERVIEW
Since 2008 My Detour have created, designed and delivered exclusive Sydney tours that focus on showcasing the local side of Sydney. We specialise in intimate groups looking to take ‘Detours’ allowing for a personalised experience.

On the Ngurrumpaa Dreamtime Detour, visitors learn how Aboriginal people lived in Australia since the beginning of time, learn about spiritual and meaningful sites in the East Coast of Australia, discover a broad scope of Aboriginal people’s skills and talents, taste real ‘bush-tucker’ and connect to the ancient land.

INCLUSIONS
- Hotel transfers (Mercedes-Benz Viano) or Helicopter transfers
- Morning tea and Bush-Tucker’ lunch
- Private guides (My Detour) and three Indigenous Elders

FEATURES
- Traditional ‘Welcome to Country’
- View Aboriginal sites at Yengo National Park with Aboriginal Elders
- Immerse yourself in ‘Corroboree’; a traditional Aboriginal dance ceremony
- Experience authentic Aboriginal culture in the bush

WHAT TO BRING
- Bushwalking shoes, personal medication, raincoat, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
- Pick up from all Sydney based accommodation with transfers to Yengo National Park
- Private individual and group tours available by request.

CONTACT
Richard Graham, Owner and Director
t: +61 404 256 256
e: richard@mydetour.com.au
w: www.mydetour.com.au

New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Toolkit
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN – ABORIGINAL HERITAGE TOUR

OVERVIEW
Located on traditional Cadigal country in the heart of Sydney city, the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney is a tranquil oasis with a rich and diverse history. Surrounded by a world-class collection of plants from Australia and overseas, you’ll enjoy spectacular views of Sydney Harbour and the iconic Sydney Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Join an Aboriginal Educator on a one-and-a-half hour Aboriginal Heritage Tour. The tour, designed with respect for Aboriginal cultural protocol, is a unique opportunity to learn about the Garden’s flora and fauna and its connection to the Aboriginal people of Australia.

INCLUSIONS
• Explore the rich Aboriginal heritage of the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney with demonstrations of plants used for bush food, medicines and shelter, as well as a range of Aboriginal artefacts and tools.
• Visitors will experience traditional cultural knowledge and gain a first-hand perspective of the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney as a site of significance for Aboriginal people.

FEATURES
• Experience Aboriginal Australia through the eyes of Aboriginal people.
• Explore the Cadi Jam Ora: First Encounters Garden, created to reflect upon Aboriginal people’s traditional use of the site and their understanding of plants and the environment

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Tour departs from the Garden Shop
• Tours take place every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from 10am – 11:30am and run for one-and-a-half hours.
• Group bookings or requests for exclusive times are available - additional costs apply.

CONTACT
Justine Warren, Marketing and media enquires
t: +61 2 9231 8134
e: justine.warren@bgcp.nsw.gov.au
w: www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
SOUTH COAST SEAPLANES - THE BINGI DREAMING TOUR

OVERVIEW
South Coast Seaplanes offers scenic charter flights and customised air travel experiences along the unspoilt South Coast of NSW. Visitors will enjoy a unique perspective on the region and an insight into its vibrant culture and history.

The Bingi Dreaming Tour commences at the The Bingi Dreaming track, part of a Songline that has been used by the Brinja-Yuin people for thousands of years. Experience a traditional smoking ceremony before exploring this beautiful area and learning about its special significance to the local Aboriginal people. Hear the Dreamtime story of Gulaga Mountain and her sons Baranguba and Najanuga before departing by seaplane.

INCLUSIONS
• A two-hour guided tour along sections of the Bingi Dreaming Track led by a local Aboriginal guide includes a traditional smoking ceremony
• Light refreshments at a secluded location
• 30-minute flight by seaplane over Baranguba (Montague Island)

FEATURES
• Try some bush tucker and discover how Aboriginal people have used the local plants and animals for thousands of years
• Take-off and land on water in a seaplane
• Take in the Gulaga Dreamtime story as you enjoy fabulous views over the coast and mountains

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• South Coast Seaplanes is based in Moruya; drive from Sydney takes approximately four-and-a-half hours and two-and-a-half hours from Canberra. REX Airlines has direct flights daily from Sydney to Moruya.

CONTACT
Timothy Gilbo, Managing Director
t: +61 409 568 568
e: trade@southcoastseaplanes.com.au
w: www.southcoastseaplanes.com.au
SPLENDOUR TOURS – AUTHENTIC ABORIGINAL EXPERIENCE

OVERVIEW
Splendour Tours curates unique travel experiences in partnership with respected Aboriginal Elders and tourism operators in Sydney.

Visitors can immerse themselves in Indigenous culture, visit sacred sites and learn about the history and significance of the Sydney area to local Aboriginal people.

INCLUSIONS
• A cultural journey, visit sacred Dreamtime sites of significance throughout the inner city
• Understanding the importance of fauna and flora in the heart of the city to Aboriginal people
• Travel across Sydney Harbour Bridge to specific sites around the city

FEATURES
• Traditional sunrise ‘Welcome to Country’ on a site overlooking Sydney Harbour with Aboriginal Elder Aunty Margret Campbell.
• Bush-tucker lunch in a heritage cafe operated by Aboriginal Elder Aunty Beryl Van-Oploo
• How to travel through the country with deep respect and acknowledgement for its Aboriginal people, their history and spirituality

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Pick-up and drop off at Sydney metropolitan accommodation
• Tour runs from 6.00am to 12noon
• Group bookings and tailored tours are available at an additional cost.

CONTACT
Carly Rea, Managing Director
t: +61 416 881 434
e: Carly@splendourtailoredtours.com.au
w: www.splendourtailoredtours.com.au
TARONGA ZOO – NURA DIYA

OVERVIEW
Just 12 minutes from the city by ferry, Taronga Zoo is a world-class zoo which also has breathtaking views over Sydney Harbour. Set on traditional Cammeraigal country, the zoo offers visitors the rare opportunity to learn about Aboriginal culture and heritage on the Nura Diya tour.

Meaning ‘this country or camp’, the tour takes visitors on a journey that reveals the strong links between Aboriginal people, their culture and wildlife. Developed with input from the local Indigenous community, the tour is led by an Aboriginal guide who shares their own stories and explains their connection to the land, animals and nature.

INCLUSIONS
• Small personalised group fully escorted by Aboriginal guides
• Morning tea
• All day Zoo access
• Sky Safari cable car access, which will let visitors discover why Taronga is known as ‘The Zoo with a view’

FEATURES
• Photographic opportunities including with a koala
• An expert Aboriginal guide
• Interaction with wildlife, including koalas, kangaroos, wallabies and birds

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Tour departs from the main entrance on Bradleys Head Road, Mosman
• Tour run daily from 9.45am to 11.45am and run for two hours.

CONTACT
t: +61 2 9978 4389
e: tourism@zoo.nsw.gov.au
w: www.taronga.org.au/taronga-zoo/tours

New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Toolkit
TRI STATE SAFARIS – MUTAWINTJI ECO TOURS

OVERVIEW
Mutawintji Eco Tours operates small-group trips to Mutawintji National Park in Outback NSW and other areas of cultural and ecological significance.

This tour will take you on a 4WD adventure into the ever-changing landscapes of the Barrier Ranges to the spectacular gorges and caverns of Mutawintji National Park.

INCLUSIONS
• Transfers from Broken Hill accommodation
• Travel in luxury 4WD vehicles
• Home-made morning tea
• Picnic lunch

FEATURES
• Interpretive walks to the Aboriginal rock engravings and hand stencil sites within Mutawintji’s Historic Site which has restricted access
• An audio-visual presentation telling the traditional Dreamtime and Creation story of Mutawintji, prepared by the Indigenous custodians
• Dramatic landscapes and wildlife in their natural environment

WHAT TO BRING
• Comfortable walking shoes, hat and sunscreen

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
• Pick up from Broken Hill accommodation
• Departures every Tuesday and Friday
• Minimum of two adult passengers is required to confirm a departure; minimum of three adult passengers [or the equivalent fare] is required to confirm a departure on Saturday or Sunday.

CONTACT
Janine Gowenlock, Sales Manager
t: +61 8 80882389
e: janine@cashpoint.com.au
w: www.mutawintjecotours.com.au
WARADAH ABORIGINAL CENTRE

OVERVIEW
Australia’s leading interactive Indigenous experience in the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Waradah Aboriginal Centre is situated at Echo Point in the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park, just 90 minutes from Sydney and 50 metres from the famous Three Sisters in the Jamison Valley.

The Waradah dance troupe, song men and didgeridoo players entertain and educate with compelling and memorable corroboree performances, sharing an insight into indigenous cultures from around Australia.

INCLUSIONS
- Traditional Aboriginal dance, song and didgeridoo playing (15 minute performance)
- Aboriginal art gallery and souvenir shop
- In addition to the performance space, the Centre houses a magnificent art gallery where you can see a range of works from local Aboriginal artists as well as a large collection from the Central Desert region.

FEATURES
- Award-winning performances take place regularly throughout the day
- Audience members will learn about Aboriginal tribes, dreamtime stories and corroborees
- Smoking ceremony
- Giant caption screen that translates the show into nine languages - English, Chinese, Spanish, Japanese, French, German, Korean, Italian and Russian

TOUR & BOOKING INFORMATION
- Open daily from 9am to 5pm
- Regular performances every day (including Public Holidays)
- VIP and International Student Packages
- Special performances and packages available for group bookings

CONTACT
Louise Godlonton, Director of Sales & Marketing
t: +61 2 8251 0078 [Australian Attractions]
e: louise@australianattractions.com.au
w: www.waradahaboriginalcentre.com.au
ABORIGINAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

OVERVIEW
Festivals and events are a great way for visitors to fully immerse themselves into a culture. Aboriginal festivals and events take place across New South Wales throughout the year. There is an opportunity to include these events into itineraries to add value to the visitor experience.

BLAK MARKETS – YEAR ROUND
The renowned Blak Markets of Sydney feature outdoor market stalls, free entertainment and tours of iconic sites – all with an Aboriginal cultural focus. For more information blakmarkets.com

SYDNEY FESTIVAL – EVERY JANUARY
Every January, Sydney Festival enlivens and transforms Sydney with a bold cultural celebration based on high quality art and big ideas. The Sydney Festival program includes a significant number of performances by Indigenous companies and performers. For more information sydneyfestival.org.au

YABUN FESTIVAL – 26 JANUARY
Supported by Destination NSW, the Yabun concert is one of the biggest celebrations of its type in the country attracting people from across NSW to Sydney. For more information gadigal.org.au

NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE – INDIGENOUS ALL STARS – EVERY FEBRUARY
Supported by Destination NSW, this week-long event celebrating Rugby League’s commitment to Indigenous Australia, culminates in the Indigenous All Stars v World All Stars match in Newcastle. For more information allstars.nrl.com

BOOMERANG FESTIVAL – 13 – 17 APRIL 2017
Held in conjunction with Bluesfest at Byron Bay, the Boomerang Festival features an array of music, dance, theatre, comedy, film and visual arts, along with cultural knowledge exchanges and thought-provoking conversations. For more information boomerangfestival.com.au

NAIDOC WEEK – FIRST WEEK IN JULY
NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Week (NAIDOC) an is celebrated across Australia in the first full week of July with a focus on cultural events in Sydney and Regional New South Wales. For more information naidoc.org.au

BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE – 29 JUNE – 22 JULY 2017
Bangarra is Australia’s leading Indigenous performing arts company, widely acclaimed around the world for its powerful dancing, distinctive theatrical voice and unique soundscapes, music and design. The world premiere of its new production, Bennelong, will take place at the Sydney Opera House in June 2017. For more information bangarra.com.au

WUPAGWANARUHA – OCTOBER – DECEMBER
WUPAGWanarua is an Indigenous art trail in the Hunter Valley. Now in its sixth year, the trail has grown to almost 20 Indigenous artists exhibiting their work over ten weeks across multiple venues. For more information wupa.com.au
SYDNEY ABORIGINAL GALLERIES AND EXHIBITIONS

OVERVIEW
Visitors have excellent opportunities to purchase authentic arts and crafts in Sydney at either Aboriginal-owned galleries or galleries accredited by an appropriate industry association to ensure ethical and sustainable practices to protect Indigenous artists. Also some of Sydney’s major museums and art galleries have exhibitions that showcase the cultural and social histories of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

1. BOOMALLI ABORIGINAL ART, LEICHHARDT
Boomalli is an Aboriginal owned co-operative which has a main gallery for major exhibitions and smaller galleries used by Boomalli’s Artist members to mount and curate solo exhibitions. Boomalli will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2017. For more information boomalli.com.au

2. THE ARTERY CONTEMPORARY ABORIGINAL ART GALLERY, DARLINGHURST
The Artery Contemporary Aboriginal Art Gallery supports Indigenous communities and is a member of the Indigenous Art Code. The Artery’s goal is to offer the highest quality and best selection of Aboriginal art at fair and affordable prices. For more information artery.com.au

3. KATE OWEN GALLERY, ROZELLE
Kate Owen Gallery has more than 2000 artworks by 200 artists housed in its Rozelle space. A proud member of the Aboriginal Art Association of Australia, all paintings come with certificates of authenticity and, where available, photographs of the artist creating the work and with the completed work. For more information kateowengallery.com

4. COOEEE ART GALLERY, BONDI
Australia’s oldest Aboriginal fine art gallery based at Bondi has a regular exhibition program. A member of the Indigenous Art Code, Cooee specialises in Indigenous paintings, sculpture, limited edition fine art prints, quality artefacts and hand-crafted gifts. For more information cooeeeart.com.au

5. YIRIBANA GALLERY, ART GALLERY OF NSW, SYDNEY
The Yiribana Gallery has beautiful art by acclaimed Australian Indigenous artists. It also includes the Yiribana Project Space, home to a range of changing exhibitions. Yiribana means ‘this way’ in the language of the Eora people and acknowledges the location of the gallery on Gadigal land. For more information artgallery.nsw.gov.au/venues/yiribana

6. AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, SYDNEY
The Australian Museum’s Indigenous Australians exhibition traces Aboriginal culture from its recorded history dating back 40,000 years and examines the themes and issues in the lives of Indigenous Australians today. For more information australianmuseum.net.au

7. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, DARLING HARBOUR
The Australian National Maritime Museum’s permanent exhibition, ‘EORA First People’ features bark paintings, sculptures and artefacts from Australia’s Aboriginal coastal and river communities, showing their strong connection with the sea. For more information anmm.gov.au

8. MUSEUM OF SYDNEY, SYDNEY
The ‘Edge of the Trees’ sculpture in the museum forecourt marks the site of first contact between the British colonisers and the Gadigal people of Sydney. Inside, the museum takes visitors on a journey through Sydney from 1788 to contemporary times. For more information sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/museum-of-sydney
REGIONAL ABORIGINAL GALLERIES AND EXHIBITIONS

OVERVIEW
Visitors travelling in Regional New South Wales have many opportunities to experience local Aboriginal culture first-hand at community cultural centres, galleries and keeping places. These centres have exhibitions that showcase the cultural and social histories of their communities and offer visitors an opportunity to purchase local, authentic arts and crafts. Below are just a few.

1. ARIMDALE AND REGION ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE AND KEEPING PLACE
This Aboriginal community-based centre is located in the New England area where visitors can experience the diversity of Australian Indigenous arts and culture. It offers high-quality cultural tours and run a range of Aboriginal cultural workshops. There is also an extensive art gallery and bush tucker cafe. For more information ackp.com.au

2. DUNGHUTTI NGAKU ABORIGINAL ART GALLERY, KEMPSEY
Nestled in parkland in Kempsey on the North Coast of New South Wales, the Dungubuti Ngaku Aboriginal Art Gallery is housed in the Visitor Information Centre. The Gallery boasts artwork from prominent established and emerging Aboriginal artists of the Dungubuti region. For more information dnaag.com.au

3. MIROMAA ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, NEWCASTLE
Miromaa Aboriginal Language and Technology Centre is a public library and knowledge centre based in Newcastle, focused on Indigenous studies. Visitors can learn about traditional Aboriginal culture and language. For more information milromaa.org.au

4. MUDA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION, BOURKE
The Muda Aboriginal Corporation located in Bourke runs a variety of cultural programs, including the local radio station, cultural tours along the Darling Riverbank, an art gallery and cultural centre. For more information 2cuzfm.com

5. MURU MITTIGAR CULTURAL CENTRE, PENRITH
Muru Mittigar offers an authentic Australian Indigenous cultural experience with cultural talks, bush walks and boomerang throwing. Aboriginal artists will assist you with designing your own painting using traditional Aboriginal symbols. Learn different art styles and their meanings. More information murumittigar.com.au

6. YARKUWA INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE CENTRE, DENILUIN
Yarkuwa is a Traditional Owner organisation based in Deniliquin in the Riverina Region. Visitors can make use of the Indigenous Knowledge Library, purchase art and bush tucker or book a guided tour to learn about the Indigenous heritage of the Wamba Wamba and Perrepa Perrepa People. For more information yarkuwa.com.au

7. YARRAWARRA ABORIGINAL CENTRE, CORINDE BEACH
Yarrawarra is a homelands of the Garby Elders and the Gumbaynggirr people is located at Corindi Beach, between Coffs Harbour and Grafton on the North Coast. Surrounded by tranquil bushland, pristine beaches and abundant wildlife, it has a bush tucker cafe, a regional Aboriginal art gallery, and a function centre with hostel accommodation for up to 70 people. For more information yarrawarra.org.au
ABORIGINAL PERFORMANCE GROUPS

OVERVIEW
NSW Aboriginal performance groups offer visitors the chance to witness and interact with traditional Indigenous music and dance. Booking an Aboriginal performance group is an excellent way to add value to any tour program. All Aboriginal businesses listed below can cater for any group size and quotes are available on request.

DESCENDANCE DANCE COMPANY
Descendance performances cover both traditional and contemporary Indigenous dance styles. Descendance’s award-winning show has toured around the world while still maintaining a strong presence in Australia. Descendance has some of the world’s finest, didgeridoo players, dancers, singers, storytellers, choreographers, traditional painters, musicians, and also provides ‘Welcome to Country’ and Smoking Ceremonies. Visitors are encouraged to meet with the Aboriginal dancers after the performance. Available for group performances.
For more information descendance.com.au

DOONOOCH DANCE COMPANY
This traditional Aboriginal dance company has performed in more than 24 countries, including at the opening of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. The performances present traditional Aboriginal stories in a contemporary style, featuring songs in the Monero people’s language. Performance length and troupe size can be tailored to individual needs. For more information doonooch.com

INDIGIEARTH PERFORMERS
Indigiearth is a traditional Aboriginal dance group that will entertain and educate audiences with rituals of Aboriginal culture that are thousands of years old. Indigiearth has performed for more than 20 years nationally and internationally and specialises in traditional song and dance from NSW. Each performance can vary depending on the type of entertainment required, such as welcome performances and performing traditional storylines. Performances can also be choreographed for specific events.
For more information indigiearth.com.au

KOOMURRI ABORIGINAL DANCERS
This leading Aboriginal entertainment and events company has toured in Australia and around the world for over 30 years. Koomurri work with local Aboriginal people in many regions to blend local tradition and Songlines with the Koomurri way. A variety of performances are available including; ‘Welcome to Country’ and farewell performances, major event programming, corporate conference entertainment, traditional Aboriginal song and dance, traditional and contemporary didgeridoo and dance shows, opening and closing ceremonies and hands on learning workshops for team building programs.
For more info aboriginculturalevents.com.au

NGARAN NGARAN CULTURE AWARENESS – TRADITIONAL DANCERS
Ngaran Ngaran Culture Awareness Traditional Dancers have two dynamic performance packages with up to 14 dances to showcase local Yuin (South Coast NSW) talent. These dances stem from the Yuin Dreaming teachings passed down from generation to generation.
For more information ngaranaboriginalculture.com/nnca-traditional-dancers
ABORIGINAL BUSH TUCKER AND CORPORATE GIFTS

OVERVIEW
New South Wales is home to some of the best Indigenous chefs in Australia who feature fresh local produce infused with bush tucker herbs and spices. Tour organisers can include an Aboriginal owned cafe or connect with Indigenous catering companies to deliver a unique experience. There are also Aboriginal-owned businesses which produce authentic native bush tucker and bush beauty gifts which would make any tour program complete.

GARDENERS LODGE CAFÉ – VICTORIA PARK, SYDNEY
A beautifully restored sandstone building with a lakeside park setting, the Gardeners Lodge Café is located in the heart of Sydney in Victoria Park. Indigenous-owned and run by well-known local identity, Aunty Beryl Van Oploo the cafe offers food with unique bush flavours and great coffee. Group bookings are available for bush tucker evenings which include an Aboriginal cultural performance and discussion with Aunty Beryl on bush tucker foods and Aboriginal culture.
For more information gardenerslodge.com.au

BLACK OLIVE – MARK OLIVE
Bundjalung man, Mark “The Black Olive”, has been a chef for more than 25 years, a well-known Australian celebrity with his charismatic style and creative approach to food, starring in his own television series ‘The Outback Café’, and a host of cooking, lifestyle and travel shows in Australia and overseas. Mark’s passion for fusing native food and culture with contemporary lifestyle cooking has led to an international profile, and the creation of Black Olive Catering, an Indigenous catering company. Suitable for any group size, including VIP functions.
For more information blackolive.net.au

FRED’S BUSH TUCKER
Fred’s Bush Tucker incorporates the flavours of native herbs and spices into its range of Indigenous-inspired catering. Crocodile marinated in wild lime and chilli ginger, Kakadu plum kangaroo tartlets and lemon myrtle cheese cakes are some examples. Fred is also available to give traditional bush-tucker cooking demonstrations, where groups can have a hands-on experience preparing fish wrapped in paperbark and cooked on hot coals.
For more information fredsbushtucker.com.au

JAAING TREE – CLAYTON DONAVAN
Clayton Donovan, Australia’s only hatted Indigenous chef and star of television show Wild Kitchen, enjoys sourcing plants from the bush and foraging for amazing native ingredients. Jaaing Tree stages events at different locations in New South Wales showcasing each area’s finest local produce with a native twist. Contemporary menus blend Asian and Indigenous flavours with the freshest produce. Suitable for any group size, VIP group or function.
For more information jaaningtree.com.au

INDIGEARTH
The Indigiearth range of bush-tucker and skincare products are handmade, pure and natural, with ingredients such as Kakadu plum, emu oil, lemon myrtle, wild berry and other delicious native flowers, fruits and fragrances. Indigiearth products are available in a range of hampers which make the perfect gift to complete any tour program.
For more information indigiearth.com.au

DREAMTIME TUKA
Dreamtime Tuka is a leading supplier of bush food products, showcasing the nutritional value and cultural wealth of Indigenous foods to consumers. Dreamtime Tuka launched their new range of slices on board all regional and domestic Qantas flights across Australia in 2016.
For more information dreamtimetuka.com.au
Contacts and Links

New South Wales Aboriginal Tourism Toolkit

Aboriginal Sydney
www.sydney.com/things-to-do/aboriginal-culture

Aboriginal New South Wales
www.visitnsw.com/things-to-do/aboriginal-culture

Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan

Destination NSW Contact
Shane Dredge
Sector Specialist - Aboriginal Tourism
Destination NSW
E: info@dnsw.com.au
D: 02 9931 1460

www.sydney.com
www.visitnsw.com