



In 2017, Alice Springs Uniting Church will again be hosting our popular “Desert Intensive” and “Spirit Journey” cultural exchange program.

The **Desert intensive program** is a 2 night learning and reflection experience in the heart of Alice Springs. The program includes opportunities to learn about language, culture, land and spirituality from local Aboriginal elders and participate in workshops and reflection sessions on desert spirituality and social change.

The **Spirit Journey** is a 4 night 4WD desert journey led by John Cavanagh, an Eastern Arrernte elder and traditional healer, traveling across his ancestral lands. We will travel in a small convoy of 4WD's meandering through breathtaking East McDonnell Ranges and stopping to experience the deep tranquility and spiritual connections that this remarkable country offers all Australians. John will open the country to us, sharing stories of both the Dreaming and of his families experience growing up and working on land that has been incorporated into settler Australia but which remains Aboriginal. We will sit under the stars, camp in creek beds and around the campfire share our stories and reflect on our experiences. Together we will experience the gift that this land presents to us and find a new sense of community as we travel its ancient paths.

2017 Dates:

Sat 29th April to Sat 6th May

Sat 27th May to Sat 3rd June

Sat 1st July to Sat 8th July

Sat 22nd July to Sat 29th July



Cost: \$990.00. Includes , airport pickups and drop offs, Aboriginal speakers, food and water, camping, car and swag hire.

Accommodation: In Alice Springs we will provide camping-style accommodation with toilets/showers. Of course, you can upgrade and stay in a hotel in town. On the Spirit Journey we will be bush camping. There are no showers, toilets or electricity and so you will need to be prepared for and able to manage these situations.



Booking Flights:

Qantas flies daily to Alice Springs from most capital cities across the country. These times are peak tourist season in the outback so book as early as you can. The program starts on Saturday evening and finishes Saturday morning to allow people time to fly in and out on these days. Although some people may choose to stay in Alice Springs to visit some of our other iconic destinations such as Uluru.

See you in the desert!

Contacts:

For more information and bookings please contact Emily or Steve

Spaces are limited so booking in advance is appreciated.

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Spirit Journeys is a national network of like-minded people seeking to invite others to explore more deeply connections with land, and to have spaces to reflect on their life, purposes and spirituality.

www.spiritjourneys.com.au

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