

SPIRIT OF PLACE

ART AND CULTURE OF THE TORRES STRAIT AND ARNHEM LAND

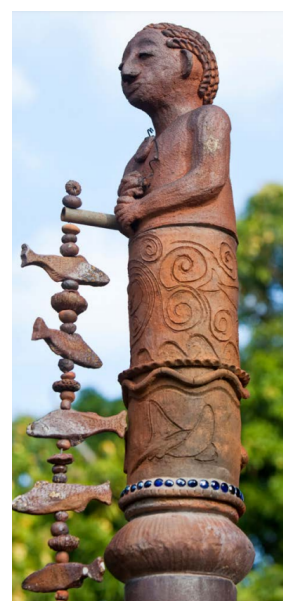
with Geraldine Doogue and Liz Gibson

24–30 May 2021 (7 days)



**From \$12,500
per person**

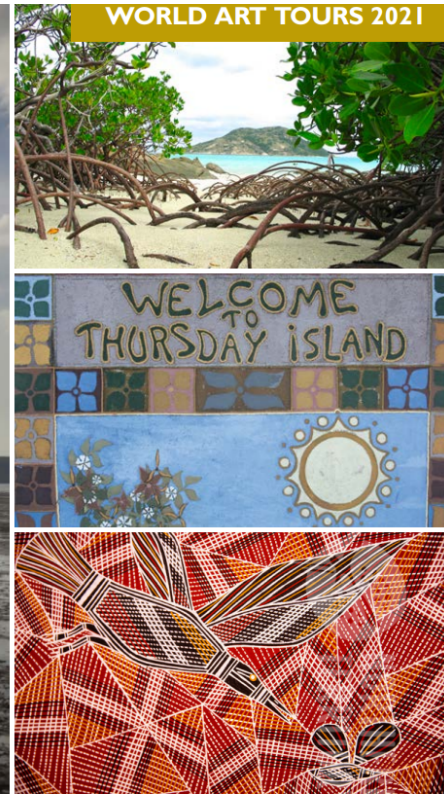
Tropical paradise in East Arnhem Land © Tourism NT/Mark Fitzpatrick



Join ABC broadcaster Geraldine Doogue and the Art Gallery Society of New South Wales' Liz Gibson, together with local Indigenous leaders, to discover the history, art and culture of the Torres Strait and Arnhem Land. On this private air tour, providing rare access to some remote and generally inaccessible areas, you can experience Australia's Top End, with its pristine beauty and diverse cultural traditions, and unravel the fascinating layers of complex, vibrant and enduring cultures that have shaped this unique part of the world. Discover picturesque Horn, Thursday and Badu islands in the Torres Strait before flying to the Gove Peninsula to visit the famed Yolngu community of Yirrkala in north-east Arnhem Land. Visit significant historic sites that hold memory and meaning for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and meet local artists who share their traditional and contemporary art practices.

Tour price includes

- Six nights in three- and four-star accommodation (best available) with breakfast daily (B)
- Privately chartered flights from Brisbane to Horn Island, Badu Island, the Gove Peninsula and returning to Brisbane
- Ferry transfers for sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary
- Meals as per itinerary (L =Lunch, D =Dinner), including wines with dinners
- Comprehensive sightseeing, including local guides and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Land transportation on comfortable, air-conditioned coaches
- Talks by your tour leaders, Geraldine Doogue and Liz Gibson
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers and wait staff



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Geraldine Doogue



Liz Gibson

YOUR TOUR LEADERS & ITINERARY

At a glance:

- Explore the art and culture of Australia's Top End with a private air tour in the company of Geraldine Doogue and Liz Gibson
- Gain rare access to Horn, Thursday and Badu islands in the Torres Strait
- Meet the famed Yolngu community of Yirrkala in north-east Arnhem Land
- Discover historic sites that have significance for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities
- Visit local community art centres and meet the artists

Mon, 24 May 2021 Arrive Brisbane in the afternoon, northernmost point. **B L D**

meet tour leaders Geraldine Doogue and Liz Gibson **Wed 26 May 2021** In the morning, explore Thursday Island, also known as Waibene to the Kaurareg people, on the edge of Australia's most northerly frontier. Explore the island's Melanesian history that dates back as far as 2,600 years with a special guided tour of the island. Understand the island's military significance with a visit to Green Fort Hill, which was built as part of Australia's defence against a possible Russian invasion, before visiting the Gabi Titui Cultural Centre for a unique insight into the region's rich culture through its Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal art. This afternoon, cross the water

Tue 25 May 2021 Today, fly from Brisbane on a private chartered jet-engined aircraft to Horn Island at the tip of Cape York Peninsula, Australia's

Itinerary subject to change without notice

ITINERARY

by ferry to Horn Island and enjoy lunch at a restaurant before joining acclaimed local guides to discover the island's military history as the second most attacked location in Australia. As part of the tour visit the Torres Strait Heritage Museum that covers the role the island played in WWII and learn about the region's pearling past and local myths and legends. Upon return to Thursday Island, enjoy a scenic cruise at sunset before dinner at the hotel. **B L D**

Thu 27 May 2021 Today, fly north to Badu Island.* At the Badu Art Centre, learn about the cultural traditions and expressions on the island with local artists producing a range of works using a variety of visual and creative mediums including printmaking, etching, painting, jewellery and carving. The focus of the Centre is to enable the expression and renewal of Badu Island cultural practices and to preserve and promote arts, crafts and culture. Return to Thursday Island in the late afternoon before enjoying dinner at the hotel. *Please note that this transfer is by a Caravan C-208 aircraft. **B L D**



Fri 28 May 2021 Today, fly from Horn Island to the Gove Peninsula on the west coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria within Arnhem Land. Nhulunbuy, meaning honey man in Yolngu language, has been home to the Yolngu people for over 40,000 years and came to international attention in the early 1960s when part of the land was excised for a bauxite mine. The development was strongly opposed by the Yolngu people at Yirrkala and the bark petition signed by the Yolngu people was sent to the Australian House of Representatives. It now hangs in Parliament House in Canberra. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before checking in to the hotel in the afternoon. Attend a talk by Geraldine and Liz before dinner at the hotel. **B L D**



Sat 29 May 2021 Today, visit Buku-Larrnggay Mulka, the Indigenous community-controlled art centre in Yirrkala. Narritjin Maymuru set up his own beachfront gallery in the 1960s where he sold the art that now graces many major museums and private collections. His vision of a Yolngu-owned business to sell Yolngu art that started with a shelter on a beach has now grown into a thriving business that exhibits and sells globally. The centre now consists of two divisions: the Yirrkala Art Centre, which represents Yolngu artists, and The Mulka Project, which acts as a digital production studio. This evening, celebrate the conclusion of the tour with a special farewell dinner with Geraldine, Liz and fellow tour members. **B L D**



Sun 30 May 2021 This morning fly from the Gove Peninsula to Brisbane airport, where tour arrangements conclude. We can assist you with your connecting flights and other travel arrangements, including additional nights' accommodation either before and after the tour or travel insurance (highly recommended). **B L**



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