



# CONNECTING STUDENTS

WITH REMOTE  
INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA





**Red Earth is an Australian organisation dedicated to connecting young people with remote Indigenous Australia through meaningful cultural immersions.**

“

A **once in a lifetime** opportunity to not only learn about Indigenous culture but also about yourself.

**Unforgettable** and **enlightening!**”

Erin - Brigidine College, Randwick, Year 11



Arnhem Land

Cape York

Central Australia

Students will be welcomed onto privately held and permit-restricted lands by Elders and Traditional Owners.

Indigenous culture is at its strongest and most authentic in these remote isolated Homelands, where the people have maintained a meaningful connection to their land for tens of thousands of years.

Our groups live with and learn from the custodians of over 65,000 years of history, stories, and knowledge - the oldest surviving culture in the world!



# Our Mission

is to prepare the leaders of tomorrow by connecting them with remote Indigenous Australia in a safe and meaningful way

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help make remote Indigenous communities and homelands sustainable by implementing meaningful community projects and by providing economic opportunity and training to those who live there.



“I love working with the kids, and I feel proud of myself when I can share my knowledge and skills with people outside the community. Red Earth’s visits build our community confidence. When our students can share their culture they become strong in their skills and feel proud of their knowledge.

Lois Fraser  
Yunyarinyi Elder

“The students who share and experience Aboriginal culture through the immersion program may one day be the leaders of our country. Sharing my personal journey and experiences has heightened my awareness of who I am and my place in the world.”

Colin Fischer  
Buru Traditional Owner



# Our immersions are

## Unique



We take you to Indigenous Homelands which are otherwise inaccessible, for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity



## Meaningful



Connect with Indigenous Australians and learn the importance of the oldest living culture in the world



## Safe



Our leaders have comprehensive training and utilise the local knowledge of our Indigenous partners to ensure every immersion is safe





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The **stunning beauty** of the region was the first impact as well as the warmth of the welcome we received. I really enjoyed the time we spent with the local people, watching the boys learning new things as well as their **teamwork and support** of each other.

The afternoon swims in the river, the music and the conversational evenings were all deeply enjoyed and allowed me as Headmaster to get to know my boys in a much better and open environment.

The Immersion Leaders were **delightful, self-sacrificial leaders** who wanted to work hard and give encouragement. **The boys loved them.**”

Dr. Tim Wright  
Headmaster, Shore

# Meaningful, personal connections are at the heart of our Immersions

Most of the Immersion is spent with Traditional Owners on remote, privately held Homelands which are inaccessible outside of this setting.



Elders & Traditional Owners run cultural activities including fishing, foraging, weaving, painting & artefact making, to name a few.

**Students contribute to Homeland sustainability by fundraising for and helping with small community-driven projects.**



**To cap off the immersion we relax and unwind by visiting some of the most beautiful natural wonders in Australia!**

# A SAFE CONNECTION

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The environment of the immersion is not always predictable. What is predictable is that the staff are highly attuned to changing circumstances and they are **well equipped** to ensure **safety is always a priority.**

”

Mrs. Christine Clarke  
Principal, Mary Mackillop College

**Preparation** Before you have even joined our program, we have already worked extensively behind the scenes with communities, homelands, Elders and Traditional Owners to make sure that our strict safety and security requirements are met. When the program begins, we work with the school to create a comprehensive risk assessment for all activities the group will undertake.

**Prevention** During the immersion we stay in safe areas away from the centres of towns. We are welcomed and hosted by Traditional Owners, we hold safety briefings every morning, and our Immersion Leaders are on the ground well before the group arrives to conduct a final safety check.

**Response** We keep remote first-aid kits, an EPIRB and a satellite phone with the group at all times. Our Immersion Leaders are certified in remote & wilderness first-aid, and we ensure ground transport is available to the group at all times.



# Service Learning

While on immersion, our groups contribute to meaningful community projects on the Homelands they visit. Projects are chosen by the Traditional Owners and are often related to food security and infrastructure.

Students fundraise in the lead up to their immersion to cover the costs of materials for their project, which gives them an opportunity to work as a team and bond, and deepens the satisfaction they will get from giving back.



# ARNHEM LAND



Aboriginal culture still lives strong in the remote Central North of Australia - one of the last areas settled by Europeans. The incredible rock art, beautiful wildlife, and welcoming communities are just a few of the reasons to visit this unique part of Australia.

Our Immersions in Arnhem Land take in the tourist must-sees: jumping crocs in the Adelaide River, 10,000 year old rock art at Nourlangie Rock, and the surreal beauty of Yellow Waters in Kakadu National Park.

Our partner Homelands in Arnhem Land are raw and authentic, giving students a window into the richness of Indigenous culture and the importance of its connection to the land. You can expect to forage for bush tucker, fish in the creeks, make spears and yadakis (didgeridoos), all while gaining a deep understanding of what it takes to survive in these remote Homelands.



# CAPE YORK

With the lush green of the Daintree Rainforest as a backdrop, Cape York is a tropical paradise home to a wealth of Indigenous culture and history.

Groups travelling to the Cape will visit the small community of Wujal Wujal, dropping in to the art centre and community services to gain an understanding of how remote communities operate in Far North Queensland.

Travelling further north, they will stay with two of our partner Homelands dotted along the peninsula to connect with Elders and Traditional Owners living on their own land. It is in these Homelands that students will be able to make meaningful connections with their hosts, learning about the land, beliefs, and rich culture.

Fishing, foraging, language and art lessons are just some of the things on the itinerary, along with snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef on the way home.



# CENTRAL AUSTRALIA



The iconic landmarks of Central Australia need no introduction, and serve as the starting point for our immersions in the Red Centre. Students will hike around Uluru, Kata Tjuta, & Kings Canyon and learn about the dreamtime stories that shaped them from a local guide.

Our groups then travel deep into the permit-protected Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands to connect with Indigenous communities living on their own land. You might find local delicacies like maku (witchedy grubs) and kangaroo tails on the menu as you cook and eat with your host mob.

The communities of Central Australia are among the most prolific and well-known producers of Indigenous art, and students will not only be able to see artists at work but discover the stories by learning to weave baskets and painting with Elders.



# CAPE YORK ITINERARY

## Days 1-3 - Jajikal Homeland

- Catch a flight in the early morning
- Crocodile spotting tour on the Daintree River
- Welcome to Country ceremony at Jajikal
- Fishing and mussel-hunting at the beach
- Painting workshop with Elder and renowned local painter
- Language lessons with a Traditional Owner
- Dinner and stories around the camp fire



## Day 4 - Wujal Wujal Community

- Welcome to Country ceremony at Wujal Wujal Falls
- Drop in to the local primary school
- Visit the art centre, police station & community facilities
- Play with the kids at the youth centre
- Learn about the history of the area from community Elders
- Dinner and stories around the camp fire

## Days 5-8 - Buru Homeland

- Day hike to Buru Homeland
- Welcome to Country ceremony
- Work on community service project
- Axe making workshop
- Rainforest walk with a Traditional Owner
- Swim in the local water hole
- Hike to a Sacred site
- Dreamtime stories around the campfire
- Nightly reflections on the immersion



## Day 9 - Great Barrier Reef

- Farewell the Buru community
- Travel South to Cape Tribulation
- Snorkel at 2 remote sites on the GBR
- Final reflection and debrief





# Get in Touch!



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