



## VINCENT 'VINNIE' ANTONY, GUIDE, EL QUESTRO HOMESTEAD

THE KIMBERLEY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Vincent Antony (or Vinnie, as he prefers to be known) is something of an Aussie Renaissance man. The surfer and boat coxswain, wildlife photographer and horticulturalist, who is also well schooled in the intricacies of Indigenous culture, offers fascinating private guided tours at El Questro Homestead, a vast wilderness property in the remote Kimberley region.

Vinnie loves to take guests on the four-hour Bush Culture, History and Nature tour, which intermingles geology, Indigenous culture and plant identification and use. "I'm fascinated by Aboriginal tool-making technology and I love to tell guests about the pressure-flaked Kimberley spear points found nowhere else in Australia. In the process I can link rock types with what was made in certain areas and how different tools were traded across the country," he says.

"I find this sort of cultural bridging particularly interesting because it opens up meaningful discussions with guests. I love to explain how intricate and sophisticated the oldest living culture on earth is, and has been. Here, I can actually show guests why the Aboriginal Kimberley culture was the most refined of all."

What is exceptional about the landscape at El Questro is that it is 1.8 billion years old. There are no fossils because the rocks predate animal life. There's also such a range and diversity of environments, from savannah grasslands to escarpments to hidden red-rock gorges. Guests don't realise how much water there is until I take them to discover the beautiful springs surrounded by palm trees in the gorges.



El Questro