Memories are made of this: Ayers Rock

With travel likely to be restricted for some time to come all we can do is relive holiday memories and build up a wish list for the future. In a new series **Clive Nicholls** will recall some of his memorable travel experiences to tempt you for when times get better. He starts this month with a spectacular helicopter flight over Ayers Rock.

PICTURE BY CLIVE NICHOLLS

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Uluru (Ayers Rock) is for me one of the natural wonders of the world. Two miles long, a mile wide and a thousand feet high, it's visible from outer space. It's a huge chunk of rock almost bang in the middle of Australia. Once you've seen it, you'll never forget it – and it's even better from the air! Holiday spending money is always limited. You've got to buy souvenirs, take something home for the family, definitely have some great meals and fine wine but if you can resist buying a few trinkets along the way, you can save enough money to spend on something that will bring memories that will truly last a lifetime – a helicopter flight over Ayers Rock! I've forgotten what it cost (a little over £100 I think) but I'll never forget the experience, it was just amazing. Ayers Rock is in the Red Centre, about 300 miles from Alice Springs. That's not far by Aussie standards and although it's in the outback, many tour companies will include it on their itinerary. Alice is a bonza place too but that's a story for another day.