

13 day Outback Queensland Tour

29 June - 11 July 2009

Tour code OQ13

Price: \$3130 per person twin/double share Deposit: \$100 at time of booking
Single Supplement: \$3690 Final Balance: 2nd June 2009



Ask about our past travel-

Day 1 Monday 29th June (D) *Dubbo - Charleville*

Depart Dubbo and travel via Nyngan and Bourke to cross the border into Queensland at Barrington. Then it's on to Cunnamulla for a date with the Cunnamulla fella before heading to Charleville for our overnight stop. Overnight at historic Corones Hotel.

Day 2 Tuesday 30th June (BLD) *Charleville - Ray Station*

We travel westward to Quilpie which is the main service centre for the channel country. A chance to meet with the locals and do some last minute shopping before we head west to the town of Eromanga known for sheep, cattle and oil, where you can have a drink in the hotel furthest from the sea. We head north to have lunch on the banks of Kyabra Creek just near "Kyabra" Station. After lunch we travel through "Thylungra" Station owned by Clyde Agriculture to "Ray" Station. **Two nights "Ray" Station.**

Day 3 Wednesday 1st July (BLD) *Ray Station*

Today we will visit the historic sites of the station which is still owned by descendants of the Durack and Tully families with a chance to fossick for the famous boulder opal which is also used in the wonderful garments designed by Sandra Tully. Hear all about the property and its history as well as learning about the day to day running of the property by the owners Mark and Sandra. Sit around the camp fire and hear the bush poetry or just marvel at the millions of stars.

Day 4 Thursday 2nd July (BLD) *Ray Station - Longreach*

Depart "Ray" Station and travel via "Thylungra", "Araluen", "Trinidad" and "Budgerygar" Stations on the way to the once busy livestock rail head of Yaraka. This is the town where cattle from the channel country were driven to be transported by rail to the coast. We travel further north to the historic wool shed on "Isis Downs", said to be Australia's largest shearing shed. Visit the Outer Barcoo Interpretation Centre for lunch. Then it's on to **Longreach for two nights.**

Day 5 Friday 3rd July (BD) *Longreach*

A town tour of Longreach this morning including visits to the Stockman's Hall of Fame and the Qantas Founders Museum, with a chance to stroll through the streets named after Australian birds. Dinner tonight is a camp oven dinner as well as a sunset river cruise.

Day 6 Saturday 4th July (BD) *Winton*

Firstly this morning we visit the School of the Air before a spot of shopping in Longreach for last minute supplies before we travel into the isolated areas of far western Queensland. We then visit the "Waltzing Matilda Centre" at Winton. Overnight at Historic North Gregory Hotel.

Day 7 Sunday 5th July (BD) *Boulia - Bedourie*

A long day awaits us as we travel through the isolated communities of Middleton and Boulia and see the ever changing faces of the outback, motor-ing between the Simpson Desert and the Channel Country. We visit the Min Min Encounter centre for an explanation on these mystic Min Min lights, arriving late afternoon at Bedourie.

Day 8 Monday 6th July (BD) *Ayre Development Road - Birdsville*

Today we travel via "Cluny" Station and "Glengyle" Station, one of Sir Sydney Kidmans properties, to the large lake Lake Machattie (if there is water in it). This lake only fills if there is big rain fall flowing into the Diamantina River. We visit an artesian bore at the Carcoory Ruins that is flowing at 98 degrees, almost boiling. Then travel through Waddi Trees to **Birdsville for 2 nights**

Day 9 Tuesday 7th July (BD) *Birdsville - "Big Red" Sand Dune*

A little bit of sight-seeing around the town and the rest is up to you to explore the attractions of the town. We then head out to the well known sand dune "Big Red" (which marks the start of the Simpson Desert Tracks) for drinks and nibbles at sunset, before returning to Birdsville Hotel for dinner.

Day 10 Wednesday 8th July (BLD) *"Cordillo Downs" Innamincka*

We head eastward today along the Birdsville Development Road before touring south across the South Australian border and Sturts Stony Desert to "Cordillo Downs" and inspect the his-

Spectacular sight seeing experiences

- Corones Hotel, Ray Station, Isis Downs Wool Shed, Qantas Museum, Stockman's Hall of Fame, Waltzing Matilda Centre, Min Min Centre, Birdsville, Cordillo Downs, Inna-

toric 100 stand shearing shed built of stone, now unused. Then it's through sand hill country along the Queensland/ South Australian border, leaving the Congie Lake system to the west of us, then to the outpost of Innamincka on Coopers Creek. Our accommodation is at the Innamincka Hotel/Motel.

Day 11 Thursday 9th July (BLD) *Dig Tree - Noccundra*

Today we visit one of Australia's historic sites, the Burke and Wills "DigTree" on Coopers Creek at "Nappa Merrie" Station. We may meet one of the outback's legends, Bomber Johnson, if the situation permits. Then it's across the Coopers Channel and into oil exploration country passing Bellara and Jackson oil plants before arriving at the Noccundra Hotel. Overnight Noccundra Hotel. Very basic share accommodation and facilities.

Day 12 Friday 10th July (BLD) *Thargomindah-Hungerford-Bourke*

We travel past Nockatunga again and travel to Thargomindah, Hungerford and cross the border into NSW and to Bourke. Overnight at Back O Bourke Motel.

