

pottertravel

OUTBACK QUEENSLAND

12 DAY TOUR

Departing: Sunday 07 June 2020

Returning: Thursday 18 June 2020



TOUR COST:

\$4250.00 per person Twin/Double Share

\$4995.00 Sole Occupancy

Please call the office for Direct Deposit details.

PICK UP TIMES:

7.10am Crawford Street, Queanbeyan
7.30am Bay 1, Woden Interchange

7.50am West Row Bus Stop, City
8.00am Riggall Place, Lyneham

Embrace the stories of local characters who have helped shape and transform the Australian outback. Live the outback story for a short while, witnessing glorious sunsets and cruising pristine waterways, outstanding dining experiences - all with the best seats in the house!

Day 1: (LD) CANBERRA TO DUBBO: Sunday 07 June 2020

Welcome to our Outback Queensland tour. Travelling via Boorowa and Cowra we break for lunch in Forbes. The wonderful McFeeters Motor Museum houses a collection of vintage, classic and veteran vehicles including a great café for us to stop for a bite. Wander through the displays of private and custom made vehicles from the 20th century before continuing through Parkes and Peak Hill to our overnight stay in Dubbo.

Golden West Motor Inn, Dubbo | 02 6882 2822

Day 2: (BLD) DUBBO TO BOURKE: Monday 08 June 2020

Making our way to Bourke, we satisfy our tummies with lunch before visiting the intriguing Back of Bourke Exhibition. Experiencing life in the true outback, this exhibition is a journey through isolation and conflict of what life was like, including stories of the wool trade via riverboats. Beginning at the end of the 19th century the river was busy with boats carrying wool bales and other produce from the railhead at Bourke to the Murray Junction at Wentworth. A wonderful dining experience awaits us this evening as we make our way to Kidman Camp. A highlight of our visit to Bourke, we'll be entertained around the campfire by a great line-up of original Australian bush music, poetry and storytelling.

Darling River Motel, Bourke | 02 6872 2288

Day 3: (BLD) BOURKE TO CHARLEVILLE: Tuesday 09 June 2020

We travel across the Queensland border and into Cunnamulla, located on the banks of the Warrego River and the starting point for the Matilda Highway. We stop here at the hotel for lunch before continuing through Wyandra to our overnight destination of Charleville. This rich pastoral district was a frontier town with its own brewery and registered bullock teams. On arrival we take a look at the Steiger Vortex Rainmaking Guns display in the Graham Andrews Parklands. They represent a fascinating outback story where a Queensland Meteorologist thought he had a 'sure fire' way of breaking what was later known as the 'great drought' during 1896 and 1902. Don some warm clothes this evening as we visit the Cosmos Centre for the twilight session. We enjoy nibbles and drinks before we take an astronomical journey unravelling some of the mysteries of our night sky. Afterwards we head to dinner.

Mulga Country Motor In, Charleville | 07 4654 3255

Day 4: (BD) CHARLEVILLE: Wednesday 10 June 2020

A local expert joins us on the coach this morning to unlock the stories of town. What were 3500 Americans doing here in Charleville? During World War II an American base was set up in Charleville and the secrecy surrounding it will be revealed as we tour the sites of where the Americans lived, slept and worked. Next is the Bilby Experience to hear a talk on the breeding population of this endangered marsupial. This Australian native is nearing an extinction crisis so we'll see firsthand how this facility is assisting with the reintroduction of the species. This afternoon we arrive at Hotel Coronas where we are treated to a Stories and Scones tour. Be regaled with tales of the true Charleville pioneer Harry Coronas, having arrived in Australia penniless but went on to make Australian history. Our tour concludes with homemade scones and a beverage. Have some time to relax at the hotel before we enjoy dinner together.

Mulga Country Motor In, Charleville | 07 4654 3255

Day 5: (BLD) CHARLEVILLE TO LONGREACH: Thursday 11 June 2020

We delve further into the outback today as we head towards Longreach. In Blackall we make a stop for lunch and the chance to see the only steam driven wool scour (wool washing facility) remaining of the 52 once operating across the country. This outback town was the first to start drilling an artesian bore in 1885 and is also home to the Black Stump. The stump was used for surveying purposes and permanently marks the original Astro Station. Anything west of this point is said to be 'beyond the black stump'. Barcardine is our next stop, a town steeped in history of the early pioneers' struggles and the evolution of Australia as a nation. The Tree of Knowledge stands next to the railway station and signifies the spot where the Australian Labour Party was formed. We arrive in Longreach and settle into our motel for the next four nights.

Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach | 07 4658 2411

Day 6: (BLD) LONGREACH: Friday 12 June 2020

Our exploration of Longreach starts with a visit to the local Strathmore Station. What a wonderful experience this is, as we get a real insight into the area through the eyes of a local grazier and pioneer family. We'll hear of the challenges of operating the land and how they were overcome. Back at the Homestead, we receive warm outback hospitality with a delicious home-baked morning tea and a wander through the tranquil gardens. On conclusion we make our way to the Kinnon & Co Station Store in the main street. Their Station Store has an amazing range of traditionally made leatherwear

and a treasure trove of historic nostalgia. We then take in the Harry Redford Old Time Tent Show. Laugh at the antics of Australia's most famous cattle duffer, Harry Redford or 'Captain Starlight' – a mix of poetic story and Australian humour to create live theatre, outback style! It will be a lot of fun and we enjoy our billy can lunch as we watch. With time to wander along the main street of Longreach afterward, we have a relaxing afternoon to enjoy. Tonight, once refreshed, we head into town to the Welcome Home Café. Our outback adventure continues with the Stonegrill dining encounter that will be an experience for sure.

Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach | 07 4658 2411

Day 7: (BLD) WINTON: Saturday 13 June 2020

We head off to experience the freedom of the vast open plains and visit the township of Winton today. Dramatic and ever-changing scenery will pass our window before arriving at the "jump up," a rugged mesa towering above the surrounding plains. We'll discover here at the Australian Age of Dinosaurs that the area was once home to these prehistoric animals. Be guided through the largest collection of Australian dinosaur fossils and uncover the largest fossil preparation laboratory in the southern hemisphere. In town we visit the newly re-built Waltzing Matilda Centre, a world class museum and art gallery. Lunch is followed by a self-guided tour through displays focusing on the livestock and wool industries of the outback, the women of the homesteads, the Australian landscape and of course, the classic poem. Before leaving town, we'll drive by the famous art deco building of the North Gregory Hotel. This historical building has an impressive past, from the first public performance of Waltzing Matilda to the clandestine meetings that saw the launch of a little airline named QANTAS. It is fitting that we are here as Qantas celebrates her centenary this year. We return to Longreach to complete a great sightseeing day in Winton.

Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach | 07 4658 2411

Day 8: (BLD): LONGREACH: Sunday 14 June 2020

Our day begins at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame. Passing the bronze statue of the stockman on the way in to the centre, we'll be amazed at the expanse and the scope of the displays. Each of the displays is unique in how they share the history behind Australia's greatest explorers, stock workers, pastoralists and Aborigines. Later this morning we venture down to the Outback Stockman's Show. Encompassing the modern day aspects of being a stockman, it's an entertaining and heart-warming show with animals and song at its core. A lovely lunch awaits us afterwards. We pick up the QANTAS story today and cross the road to visit the QANTAS Founders Museum. We'll have plenty of time to wander through the museum, see the historic photographs and view the multimedia displays. It's an extraordinary experience taking the walk-through tour on the onsite Boeing 747, decommissioned in 2003. At sunset, we join a gentle cruise gliding down the majestic Thomson River, watching the colours of the outback come alive. As those colours fade into starlight we go ashore for an evening of entertainment and a camp-oven themed dinner. It's a wonderful way to farewell Longreach.

Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach | 07 4658 2411

Day 9: (BLD) LONGREACH TO EMERALD: Monday 15 June 2020

Travelling via the Capricorn Highway and Jericho, we arrive at the gem fields of Rubyvale. Welcomed at the Rubyvale Gem Gallery for lunch, we hear the story of 21 year old Peter Brown who arrived out here in 1974. He set up camp along the creek banks and during his fossicking dug up his first sapphire. He was hooked! He is still here making beautiful jewellery from the high quality sapphires found in the area. After lunch we view the showroom displays and enjoy the resident rainbow lorikeets in the award winning garden. Our final stop today is Emerald, the commercial hub of Central Queensland.

Western Gateway Motel, Emerald | 07 4913 1050

Day 10: (BLD) EMERALD TO ROMA: Tuesday 16 June 2020

We uncover Emerald this morning including the National Trust listed railway station, which is well worth a visit. Distinguished by the semi-circular roof to the pillared portico, it is arguably one of the finest public buildings in the central highlands. Outside the town hall we'll see a 250 million year-old fossilised tree, unearthed from the banks of the Mackenzie River. From Emerald we head south to Roma, taking a look at Heroes Avenue where 93 bottle trees were planted memorialising the local men lost in the first World War. Each tree originally bore a brass plaque stating the name of the fallen soldier, however only one of these plaques survives and is on a cairn outside the post office.

Explorers Inn Roma | 07 4620 1400

Day 11: (BLD) ROMA TO BRISBANE: Wednesday 17 June 2020

Travelling via Dalby, we stop in at a place called the Jondaryan Woolshed. With time for lunch and self-exploration, the oldest (and largest) operating woolshed will be an eye-opening visit. It has been celebrating the rich, cultural and pastoral history of the Darling Downs region since the mid 1800s. Continuing on, we make our way through Toowoomba getting closer to the coast and our destination of Brisbane. Checking into our final night's accommodation, we get together for our farewell dinner.

Pacific Hotel, Brisbane | 07 3831 6177

Day 12: (B) BRISBANE TO CANBERRA: Thursday 18 June 2020

We'll take in the city sights this morning before making our way to the Brisbane Airport. Boarding our flight back to Canberra we head for home with many wonderful memories of our outback adventure through Queensland.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

DEPOSIT is required within 14 days of booking confirming your reservation. If no deposit is received, Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel the booking. Deposit is **\$500.00 per person**.

FINAL PAYMENT: MONDAY 06 APRIL 2020

Tour reference for
Direct Deposits:
Surname P12044

CANCELLATION TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Reservations that are cancelled prior to **MON 06 APR 2020**: Loss of \$50.00 administration fee.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after **MON 06 APR 2020** and prior to **THU 07 MAY 2020** loss of 50% of total tour cost.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after **THU 07 MAY 2020** loss of 100% of total tour cost.

The \$50.00 Potter Travel administration fee only occurs when a refund cheque is issued. There is no administration fee for funds transferred to another Potter Travel tour. No shows on day of departure or cancellations whilst on tour will be charged a 100% cancellation fee. Where Potter Travel cancels the tour as a result of insufficient numbers or due to reasons within Potter Travel's control, a full refund of any monies paid at the time of cancellation will be given.

The operation of the tour is subject to minimum numbers. Once inside the final payment date if your cancellation affects our minimum group numbers, Potter Travel reserves the right to impose further cancellation fees in addition to those noted above. Potter Travel reserves the right to pass on any additional fees or surcharges imposed by the airlines or wholesaler with or without notice.

Tour Includes: Dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation at the hotels mentioned in the itinerary, economy flights from Brisbane to Canberra, some lunches, morning and/or afternoon tea supplied from the coach, entry fees and/or guided tours to all attractions as mentioned in the itinerary, tickets to shows (if applicable), luxury coach travel and GST.

Meals are stated in the itinerary as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch and D = Dinner.

Not Included: Alcoholic beverages or other drinks (except wine tasting), meals not specified, room service, telephone calls, some morning/afternoon teas or any items of a personal nature.

Forced Singles are not permitted on our tours. If you wish to twin share you will need to organise your own travelling companion, otherwise single supplement is payable.

Potter Travel recommends that Travel Insurance be taken to protect against unforeseen circumstances. Travel Insurance is available through Potter Travel.

Potter Travel reserves the right to alter itineraries without notice due to weather, road conditions or any other reason which is seen to be in the best interest of passengers travelling. The price is **subject to any changes imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary**. The operation and provision of services from other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary is the responsibility of these operators and no responsibility is taken by Potter Travel for the failure of such operators to provide the nominated service.

No guarantees will be given as to the exact arrival and departure times for carriers and operators used by Potter Travel. Drop offs may be in the opposite direction to the pickups depending on the touring route taken.

Daily **seat rotation** will take place on all extended tours, which all travellers must participate in as a condition of booking. Passengers suffering from motion sickness are advised to take the necessary precautions as seat rotation is compulsory.

Potter Travel accepts no responsibility for damage, loss of personal belongings or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport companies used for connecting tours operated by this company. Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel or postpone the tour due to insufficient numbers or as the result of circumstances outside the company's control.

Participation or inclusion in a photo taken by a Potter Travel staff member whilst on any of our tours, indicates that you are giving us the right to publish any such photos on our website or Facebook page for promotional purposes.

Potter Travel will be charging the *1.03% merchant fee on all credit card transactions, as the banking industry imposes a broad range of fees and merchant charges to businesses. The charges will apply for partial or full payments by credit card. Cash, Cheque, Money Order and Eftpos payments will **NOT** incur any additional charges. *Subject to change, in accordance with National Australia Bank Flexipay Merchant Fees.

Where tours are fully booked any future enquiries will be put onto a waitlist and as cancellations occur the person at the top of the waitlist will be contacted first and offered the seat followed by the second, the third and so on. In the instance that you are unable to be contacted on a daytime telephone number, the seat will be offered to the next person on the waitlist.

You must be able to embark and disembark the coach unaided to travel on a Potter Travel tour. Your deposit and final payment on our tour is acknowledgement that you have read and understood the booking terms and conditions as mentioned above.

RESERVATIONS AND ENQUIRIES

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