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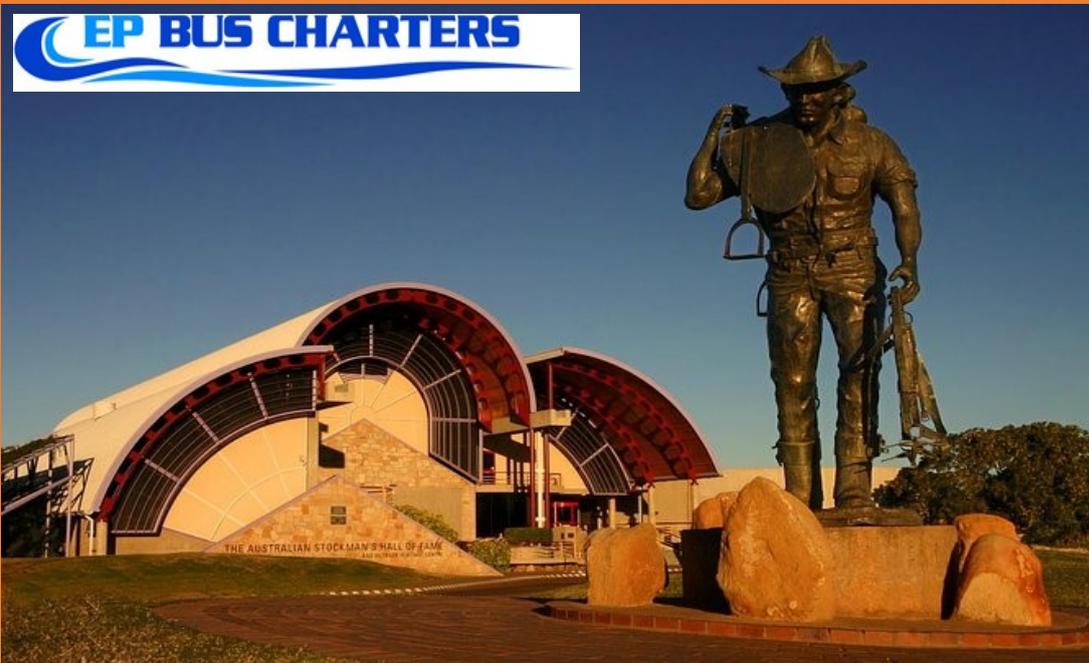
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ex Adelaide

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## Cameron's Corner and Longreach Saturday 13 August 2022 - Sunday 28 August 2022

### PORT LINCOLN TO BROKEN HILL DAY 1

D

Welcome to our outback adventure with **EP Bus Charters**. Bags and akubras packed we have an early start as we have quite a way to go today. We make stops along the way including a stop to purchase lunch. Our afternoon is spent expressing to our first overnight stop, which is in Broken Hill. *Dinner in the motel Silver Haven Motor Inn, Broken Hill | 1 night*

### BROKEN HILL TO TIBOOBURRA DAY 2

BLD

Our morning travels shows us how vast the Australian Outback truly is, not a lot to see but certainly an appreciation of the beauty and remoteness. We stop at the **Packsaddle Roadhouse** where we enjoy a slightly earlier lunch today. Arriving into **Tibooburra** we are in the hottest and most isolated outback town in New South Wales. The town was originally known as The Granite or Granite Rush and came into existence with the discovery of gold at Mt Browne and then Tibooburra itself in 1881. That year nearly 1000 miners arrived in the town and the government, eager to provide services, surveyed the town site and built a post office. Yields were disappointing however, lack of water was a chronic problem and typhoid and dysentery took their toll. Nonetheless over the next decade the town got a school, courthouse and hospital (1890). The Family Hotel (1883), with its famous murals and paintings and the Tibooburra Hotel (1890) both built of local stone are still standing in Briscoe St. Along with the courthouse they are regarded as the town's most significant historical buildings. *Breakfast and dinner in motel | lunch at Packsaddle roadhouse Family Hotel, Tibooburra | 1 night*

### TIBOOBURRA TO INNAMINCKA DAY 3

BLD

The Strzelecki Track used to be one of the driest and loneliest tracks on which to transport cattle to Adelaide. Today the track is mainly used by trucks transporting supplies for the nearby Moomba gas fields. We take the track some of the way before veering off towards **Cameron Corner** – the intersection of the New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland borders. What a fantastic spot to take a group photo across all three states. The intersection is identifiable with a permanent marker, whilst the borders are physically constructed as the wild dog fence. We make a stop here at the **Cameron Corner Store** to pick up lunch. The Innamincka region is best known historically because of its association with the tragedy of Burke and Wills expedition but more recently it has become identified as a gas and oil area. Set in a desert region, it relies heavily on water from North Queensland to refill Cooper Creek. We can imagine how hard it was for these explorers to negotiate their way around now can't we? Time to count our blessings! *Breakfast and dinner in motel | lunch included Innamincka Hotel/Motel, Innamincka | 2 nights*

### INNAMINCKA DAY 4

BD

Today we explore the area of **Innamincka**. Surprisingly our first look around will be from the water, on **Cooper Creek**. We take a one hour **cruise** where we will be captivated as we meander along the creek and take in the stunning birdlife and marvel at the variety of plant life. Arriving at **Kings Marker** our coach will be there waiting for us to continue our discovery on land once again. The town had its origin in the failed attempt by Burke and Wills to return to Melbourne after having crossed the continent from south to north. Although still going, the town never had a population exceeding thirty people. *Breakfast and dinner in motel*





### INNAMINCKA TO THARGOMINDAH DAY 5

BLD

During our travel day we stop at the famous **Dig Tree**. This is the site of the cache of food left for the starving members of the South-North transcontinental expedition. A bit of time is spent in the coach today but that is all part of why we have joined this trip, to experience the vastness, remoteness and harshness of this amazing country we live in. We stop at the **Noccundra Hotel** for afternoon tea. Some people wonder why our population is so small for the size of the land we occupy, we are finding out the answer during these travel days. Don't worry we are about to arrive at the Oasis in this desert region – The Oasis Motel that is. The pool will certainly look inviting on our arrival. Country hospitality promises a good home cooked meal, then off to bed in our basic but clean rooms for a good nights' sleep. *Breakfast and dinner in motel | picnic lunch included*  
**Thargomindah Oasis Motel | 1 night**

### THARGOMINDAH TO CHARLEVILLE DAY 6

BLD

Leaving right after breakfast gives us time to make a fantastic stop during the day. First time we hop off the coach is in **Cunnamulla** to see what life on the land is really like. We arrive at **Charlotte Plains Station** which is a genuine working sheep and cattle station steeped in history and unique memorabilia. Our time here will be made special by getting to know the owners during a talk and tour after which we savour the **lunch** that has been prepared for us. As we make our way through Cunnamulla take a look at the **Cunnamulla Fella** - a statue located near the Shire Hall gazing across the centre of town. The Cunnamulla Fella is an iconic Australian Bush character from a song written by Stan Coster and sung by Slim Dusty. The town erected the statue as a tribute to Stan and Slim and to the 'ringers' of the bush. Late afternoon we arrive in Charleville. *Breakfast and dinner in motel | lunch at Charlotte Plains Station* **Waltzing Matilda Motel, Charleville | 1 night**

### CHARLEVILLE TO LONGREACH DAY 7

BD

After breakfast we continue north to **Blackall**, home to the legendary "gun shearer" **Jackie Howe** and where he set the almost unbelievable record of shearing 321 sheep with blade shears in a day. A bronze statue now stands as a monument to the man and the achievement. We will make a stop along the way to purchase lunch. At **Ilfracombe** we have time this afternoon to "wet the whistle" at the famous **Wellshot Hotel**. From here it's onto **Longreach**, a town which has played a significant role in the early development of central Queensland and outback Australia. We check in to our accommodation where we can settle in as this will be home for the next 5 nights. *Breakfast and dinner at the motel* **Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach | 5 nights**

### WINTON DAY 8

BLD

We will see some dramatic and ever-changing scenery as we make our way to **Winton**. The area was once home to dinosaurs and is full of ground breaking scientific discoveries and archaeological digs. Today we will have the opportunity to learn about this prehistoric phenomenon at **The Australian Age of Dinosaurs**. The centre hosts the largest collection of Australian dinosaur fossils and the largest fossil preparation laboratory in the southern hemisphere. It was in the Winton area that Banjo Paterson wrote his famous poem about the swagman and the jolly jumbuck and "**Waltzing Matilda**". On arrival in town we head straight to the **Waltzing Matilda Centre** for lunch and time to look through the museum. Tragically, it was burnt to the ground in 2015 and luckily for us, it has re-opened and is now a world class museum and art gallery with displays focusing on the Australian landscape, channel country, the women of the homesteads and livestock/wool industries of the outback. We return to Longreach for our last night in the area. *Breakfast and dinner in motel | Lunch at Waltzing Matilda Centre*

### LONGREACH DAY 9

BLD

This morning we get an insight to the area through the eyes of local graziers and pioneer families. Greeting the owners of **Strathmore Station**, we discover what it takes to meet the challenges of the land and how they were overcome. At the Homestead we receive warm outback hospitality with a delicious home-baked morning tea. Next we visit the historic 1922 QANTAS hanger at the **QANTAS Founders Museum**. The historic photographs, memorabilia and multimedia displays bring alive the inspirational stories of one of the world's pioneering airlines. The complex houses the museum, theatre and exhibition hall and visitor information centre. A **Boeing 747-200**, donated by Qantas Airways Ltd, forms a spectacular part of the museum's outdoor display. Our **guided tour** provides us with an appreciation of the vision and achievements of the Qantas Founders, which is "that Qantas would one day become one of the worlds' greatest airlines". We enjoy lunch here before returning to our hotel to freshen up for our sunset cruise and dinner on the banks of the **Thomson River**. Relax on the top deck of the **Longreach Explorer** and take in 360 degree views of the Thomson River. Enjoy entertaining and informative commentary detailing river and cultural stories. Unwind with complimentary nibbles platters and purchase drinks from the licensed on-board cash bar. As the sunset fades into starlight, we dock at **Smithy's Outback Dinner & Show** for a night of great food and live entertainment under the stars. *Breakfast in motel | lunch at QANTAS Founders Museum | Outback dinner and show*

## INCLUSIONS

- Complete charter
- 15 nights accommodation
- 15 cooked breakfasts
- 14 dinners
- 10 lunches

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Morning cruise on Cooper Creek, Innamincka
- Visit Dig Tree
- Talk on the History of Noccundra
- Afternoon tea provided from Noccundra Hotel
- Morning tea, tour and lunch at Charlotte Plains Cattle Station
- Cobb & Co Stagecoach Experience, Harry Redford Old Time Tent Show, Billy Can Lunch at Outback Pioneer – Kinnon & Co
- Entry to School of Distance Education, Longreach
- Entry to Museum Galleries and A Stockman's Life - Live Day Show at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame, Longreach
- Strathmore Station Smoko Tour with Outback Aussie Tours
- Lunch, Museum Entry and a 747 / Super Constellation Tour at the Qantas Founders Outback Museum, Longreach
- Drovers Sunset Cruise, Smithy's Outback Dinner and Show with Outback Aussie Tours Longreach
- Tour and morning tea at the Australian Age of Dinosaurs, Winton
- Entry, Self-guided audio tour and Lunch at the Waltzing Matilda Centre
- Locally guided tour of Barcardine
- Lunch at The Wool Scour, Blackall
- Nibbles and drinks at the Cosmos Centre and 30 minute twilight observatory session at the Charleville Cosmos Centre
- Locally guided tour of Bourke
- Dinner at Bourke Bowling Club
- Lunch at Warrawong on the Darling Wilcannia



## OUTBACK LEGENDS

DAY 10

BLD

What an exceptional day planned! We must hold on to our hats as we travel back in time within a beautifully restored **stagecoach**! Hearing the pounding hooves of the magnificent horses on the outback road, there is no mistaking that we are now part of the pioneering past. Enjoy this exhilarating and entertaining experience as it's the closest you can get to feeling what it would have been like being a pioneer. We now visit the **Stockmans Hall of Fame**, a fascinating tribute to the pioneering men and women of Outback Australia. We enjoy a Billy-Can lunch and see the wonderful "**Harry Redford Old Time Tent Show**" at the **Kinnon and Co store**. Based on the traditional outback travelling shows, this is Aussie outback humour and ingenuity at its best! It's a hilarious hour of entertainment featuring animals, stockmen and improvised theatre with a laugh a minute. Following our afternoon of entertainment we visit the **School of Distance Education** - a classroom more than twice the size of Victoria, where the playground is as vast as the outback and the partnership between home and school is legendary. *Breakfast at the Woolshed Restaurant | Billy Can lunch | dinner at the Birdcage Hotel*

## LONGREACH DAY AT LEISURE

DAY 11

B

Today you have the day at leisure to further explore the township. Simply take in the beauty of the area or explore the shops that are unique as the locals that run them. Tonight's dinner is at your own cost to maybe try something completely different or more of the same. *Breakfast at the Woolshed Restaurant*

## LONGREACH TO CHARLEVILLE

DAY 12

BLD

This morning we farewell Longreach and travel to **Barcardine**, a town steeped in history of the early pioneers' struggles and the evolution of Australia as a nation. We'll hear about the shearers strike in the 1890s and see the **Tree of Knowledge**. This marks the spot where the Australian Labour Party was formed. Our **lunch** venue today is at the massive **Wool Scour**, housed in the Visitor Information Centre. This is the only steam driven wool scour (wool washing facility) remaining of the 52 once operating across the country. This afternoon we express through to our overnight destination of **Charleville**, the town situated on the banks of the Warrego River. We arrive in **Charleville** with time to settle into our motel before venturing out late this afternoon to Charleville's best known attraction, the **Cosmos Centre**. The centre is an audio-visual extravaganza featuring hi-tech interactive displays that take you on an astronomical journey through the ages, unravelling many mysteries of our night sky. We enjoy some nibbles and drinks before the open-air observatory and viewing of the outback night sky. *Breakfast and dinner at the motel | lunch at Wool Scour* **Mulga Country Motor Inn, Charleville | 1 night**

## CHARLEVILLE TO BOURKE

DAY 13

BLD

We have a travel day today as we head due south, stopping for rest stops and our **packed lunches** along the way. Our destination today is **Bourke**. Due to its proximity to the Darling River, it was soon established as a trade hub for transportation industries that were setting up branches in the town. There was a Cobb & Co Coach Terminus, several paddle boat companies and in 1885 Bourke was also accessible by rail. Upon arriving into town we are joined by a **local guide** who will give us an introductory tour. At the corner of Mitchell and Wilson Streets is the Carriers Arms Inn, frequented by Henry Lawson in the early 1890s and mentioned in some of his stories. *Breakfast in motel | picnic lunch included | dinner at Bowling Club* **Darling River Motel, Bourke | 1 night**

## BOURKE TO BROKEN HILL

DAY 14

BLD

Today is a travel day as we drive from Bourke to Broken Hill. Hopefully, subject to road and weather conditions, we can follow alongside the Darling River. First stop is the port of **Louth** which initially served the great McCaughey Empire of Toorale and Dunlop Stations - 2 million acres, shearing half a million sheep during the 1880s. The sheds, on the forefront of technology, were the first to use electricity and mechanical shears. Next stop is **Tilpa** - the "village on the flood plain". The Tilpa Hotel is a must see - one of only two pubs in Australia considered to represent true bush hotels of yesteryear. Our final stop on the Darling is **Wilcannia** - once known as Queen City of the West and the site of the original Resches Brewery. We stop in at the Warrawong on the Darling Wilcannia for a slightly later lunch. From here we turn west to Broken Hill. *Breakfast and dinner in motel | lunch at Warrawong on the Darling Wilcannia* **Silver Haven Motor Inn, Broken Hill | 1 night**

## BROKEN HILL TO PORT AUGUSTA

DAY 15

BD

We have a travel day today so don't forget a good book or maybe some photos you want to sort through. We make stops along the way including one to purchase lunch. Arriving into Port Augusta we can freshen up for our last dinner together on tour with many stories to share. *Breakfast and dinner in motel* **Standpipe Golf Motor Inn, Port Augusta | 1 night**

## PORT AUGUSTA TO HOME

DAY 16

B

Not only have we made wonderful new friends but we have explored parts of Australia that many don't get to see and enjoy. The Aussie country hospitality is remembered and cherished as we head for home. Arriving home early afternoon ends a most wonderful trip to the Outback, where time has stood still in some parts. *Breakfast in motel*



## TERMS & Conditions

- Price is based on twin share, single supplements apply
- \$350 per person—deposit required upon booking (when receiving paperwork)
- Deposit is non refundable if guest cancels
- Tour will be rescheduled if COVID-19 causes cancellation of dates on itinerary or deposit credited to your tour of choice within 12 months
- Dietary requirements upon booking
- Balance due 5 weeks prior to tour departure
- 5 weeks to 14 days 50% loss
- 14-8 days 70% cancellation fee
- Inside 7 days 100% cancellation fee
- Itinerary subject to change due to weather or events out of our control

## CONTACT US TODAY & LOCK IN YOUR ADVENTURE!

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES  
Phone Kim 0417 165 414



**BOOK TODAY! Phone Kim 0417 165 414**

**Testimonials**

I have travelled with EPBus Charters several times and have always had a great time. David is a great driver, Kim a wonderful hostess and they always have your safety and enjoyment as a priority. **Betty Coulthard**

*Well, what fantastic charter this was we were looked after like king and queens by Kim and David and their little grandson Kody they took us to Tasmania so full of knowledge our gorgeous Kim was and David sure knew how to drive his coach and little Kody so friendly and always there to offer us water or help at drop of a hat. We would highly recommend this family business to anyone who is looking for relaxing holiday, fantastic food, fantastic accommodations and awesome tours...we will be travelling with these guys again .. so to EP Bus Charters fantastic job and credit to you all. **Gary and Vicki Anderson***

*Hi Kim and David (and Kody, of course) When Judy joined me in retirement we had already decided that we weren't going to sit in front of a television with cans of cheap lager all day. No we wanted to travel, to see countries, their cities and their people, their customs, foods, cultures and compare them with our own. We had already travelled in the U.S and Canada, cruised down the east coast of South America (including 1000 miles up the Amazon to Manaus). Anyway, we've been to many and different countries over the past 25 years and experienced coach and bus tours of varying lengths of time and distance both at home and abroad. We are both sure that **our 8 day trip with EP Bus Charters was the best so far**. The attention to quality in everything, customer topping the list, resulted in an interesting comfortable and exceptionally well organised tour. This resulted in a happy load of customers and combined with an excellent itinerary and your own well developed skills made us feel welcome and cared for at all times. Never have we enjoyed a tour so much, anywhere! So, that's' about it. We would **enthusiastically recommend EP Bus Charters as an example of how to run bus tours properly**. Thanks again so much for our trip with you and hope we are able to travel with you again. All the best for the future. **David and Judy Morris UK***



**Fully Hosted with old fashioned care. Husband and wife team, travelling in a comfortable touring coach.**

