



# Desert Sky Tours Personalised Tours 2020



## 5 day flinders ranges and arkaroola

DST005

*The Flinders Ranges provide the ultimate Australian Experience. Rugged ridges and ancient gorges lined with massive gum trees, through to the unending expanse of the Australian Outback. Add to this an abundance of Australian wildlife and you have everything that is Australia.*

### Day 1

The first day of your adventure takes us north into the wine regions of the Clare Valley. On the way, you will travel through historic towns with quaint cottages and historic buildings.

At Clare, you have an opportunity to visit one of the boutique wineries in this region.

The legendary lilac haze of the Flinders Ranges, loom ever closer in the distance.

We are now in the habitat of Australia's famous wildlife - not only kangaroos and emus live here in abundance, but also many species of birds and reptiles. From here, we continue the tour in to the heart of the Flinders Ranges through vast sheep station country. There will an opportunity to stop at one of the Ghost Towns for some stories and photos.

Rawnsley Park Resort at the base of Rawnsley's Bluff is our destination tonight, providing access to glorious walking trails, comfortable accommodation and the well renowned Woolshed Restaurant! Optional scenic flights over Wilpena Pound are available.

O/N – Rawnsley Park Station

### Day 2

We take time to see some of the magnificent sights of the Flinders Ranges and Wilpena Pound, including Huck's and the impressive Stokes Hill lookouts, then travel through the heart of the Flinders Ranges.

Razor Back Lookout in Bunyeroo Valley offers some breathtaking views of the eastern wall of Wilpena Pound, and Brachina Gorge is a "Corridor through Time" where you may spot the rare and beautiful Yellow Footed Rock Wallabies, and see fossils more than 600 million years old. Continuing through Aroona Valley, past "The Great Wall Of China" we come to the old copper mining town of Blinman for lunch.

Our destination today is the Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary at the northernmost end of these ranges. This is some of the oldest landscape on earth. Arkaroola is renowned for its 4WD tracks, some of which we will explore. On a clear night, which is most nights, the jewels of the southern sky can be viewed not just with the naked eye, but also through the best privately owned telescopes in the southern hemisphere at the Arkaroola Observatory.

O/N – Mawson Lodge - Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

## Day 3

Our day starts with the famous Ridgetop Tour, which will give you some of the most breathtaking views imaginable of rugged peaks towering above outback plains.

Cool creeks and mysterious waterholes sparkling within jagged gorges.

After lunch experience some of the other attractions around Arkaroola as we drive to The Pinnacles, Bolla Bollana and Noodoonooldoona.

O/N – Mawson Lodge Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

## Day 4

We head into the Gammon Ranges and Balcanoona where we visit the National Parks Ranger headquarters and old woolshed.

The Gammon Ranges offer a variety of scenery including Italowie Gorge, the township of Nepabunna and many tree lined creek beds.

Arriving in Copley, we may wish to sample a quandong pie from the bakery before a look at Leigh Creek Township and on to Parachilna.

We take the Moralana Scenic Drive – a tree lined gorge to the western edge of Wilpena Pound for a most interesting return to Rawnsley Park.

O/N – Rawnsley Park Station

## Day 5

Today starts the return to civilization as we travel through the northern towns of Cradock, Carrieton and Orroroo, to the old railway town of Peterborough.

The journey through the towns of the Gilbert Valley provides an opportunity to reflect on the richness of the surrounds which are a stark contrast to the arid lands we have just been into.

Your adventure will have taken you through some extremes of the Australian Outback.

Tour Includes:

5 days escorted 4WD touring

2 nights each at Rawnsley Park , and Arkaroola (D,B&B)

Ridgetop Tour at Arkaroola

All morning teas and lunches

All park entry fees

Complimentary pick up and set down in Adelaide metropolitan area

Per person twin share : AUD \$2540

Single Supplement : \$325

Departure Date : Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

