Desert Sky Tours
Personalised Tours 2027



12 days Legendary Longreach and Winton

Day 1

After home pick-up around 7.30am, we travel through the mid north towns of Tarlee, Rhynie and Auburn to the Clare Valley. At Clare, there is opportunity to visit Seven Hills Cellars - the oldest existing winery in the Clare Valley.

After morning tea, we continue the tour in to the heart of the Flinders Ranges through vast sheep station country including the Pastoral Districts of Melrose, Wilmington and Quorn. The Kanyaka ruins and cemetery are a reminder of the once huge sheep run in the pioneering era.

We have a short stop at Hawker, the "Gateway to the Flinders" then continue through to Parachilna and Leigh Creek to our overnight stop at Copley.

Accommodation: Leigh Creek Tavern

Day 2

We travel to Lyndhurst, and the start of the legendary Strzelecki Track ~(named by Capt. Charles Sturt, and pioneered by bushman Harry Redford, ("Captain Starlight") who brought stolen cattle from Queensland to South Australia in 1871.

The Track passes through the Cobbler Desert, and Montecollina Bore (lunch), to Merty Merty, then via the old Strzelecki stock route (or alternatively Moomba – depending on road conditions), to meet the Cooper floodplain and the township of Innamincka.

Accommodation Innamincka Hotel

Day 3

A day exploring Innamincka – including Cullyamurra Waterhole, and the memorial markers of each of the explorers Burke, Wills and King.
There is opportunity to enjoy a walk along the banks of the Cooper Creek and view the abundant wildlife. The Elizabeth Symons Nursing Home (Built in 1929) has been restored as an interpretive centre for the area and the Trading Post and Hotel are interesting to visit.

Accommodation Innamincka Hotel

Day 4

Just over the Queensland border we visit Camp LXV "The Dig Tree" - prominent in the Burke and Wills 1860 Expedition, then head further north into the Channel Country, stopping overnight at the small outback town of Windorah, where the Thomson and Barcoo Rivers meet to form the Cooper Creek.

Accommodation: Western Star Motel Windorah

Day 5

Following the multi-channelled Thomson River north, we pass through the town of Jundah (once an important opal mining area) then take the Winton Road to Lark Quarry Conservation Park, where over 3,300 dinosaur tracks mark the site of the only known dinosaur stampede on the planet. We join the Trackways tour to learn about the geological history of the area and how the Trackways were discovered. Our overnight stop is Winton - home of the Waltzing Matilda Legend and the Waltzing Matilda Centre is opposite our motel.

Accommodation: North Gregory Hotel Winton

Day 6

After visiting the Waltzing Matilda Centre, we make our way to Longreach (named after the "long reach" of the Thomson River). The town is home to the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Qantas Founders Museum.
This evening we enjoy a sunset dinner cruise on the Thomson River.

Accommodation: Albert Park Motor Inn Longreach

Day 7

Today we visit some of the many attractions in Longreach, including the QANTAS Founders Museum and the Australian Stockman's Hall Of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre.

Accommodation: Albert Park Motor Inn Longreach

Day 8

Leaving Longreach, we travel via Ilfracombe to Barcaldine - the "Garden City of The West" and the site of the Shearers' strike in 1891 which resulted in the formation of The Australian Labor Party. We visit the Tree of Knowledge before continuing the Matilda Highway to Blackall, which has the only steam –driven scour incorporating a woolshed left in Australia!
After a visit to the Woolscour, we continue through Tambo and Augathella to Charleville.

Accommodation: Corones Motel Charleville

Day 9

This morning we travel to Cunnamulla (home of the "Cunumulla Fella", a song written by Stan Coster and sung by Slim Dusty). Here we leave the Matilda Highway and head south west through Eulo to the Currawinya National Park, an area with prolific birdlife. It is a short drive further to Hungerford and the New South Wales border, where we pick up the Dowling Track.
The Track passes through Yantabulla, once a prosperous town but little remains today, then Fords Bridge on the Warrego River, a sleepy town with population of four, and mud brick hotel, ending at Bourke - the centre of wool, cotton and citrus.
Our accommodation in Bourke is the restored and refurbished old Telegraph Hotel, set in over one hectare of beautiful gardens, and the only motel in town with river frontage!

Accommodation: Bourke Bridge Motel – North Bourke

Day 10

A day of sight seeing! - Bourke is a charming town on the banks of the Darling and was established as a paddle steamer destination.
A modern-day replica of a paddle steamer, the "Jandra" gives us a chance during an hour cruise to experience the Darling of old. Following the cruise, we visit the Exhibition Centre and historic cemetery, and then head out of town a short distance to Mt Oxley where there are magnificent views and wedge-tailed eagles.

Accommodation: Bourke Bridge Motel – North Bourke

Day 11

One of the legends of Outback New South Wales is The **Darling River Run** – a track over 300 kms running alongside the Darling River, from Bourke to Wilcannia.
There is an element of the "frontier" as we retrace the steps of the explorers Sturt, Mitchell, Dowling, Bourke and Wills . On the Darling floodplain are the tiny townships of Louth and Tilpa.

Accommodation: Silver Haven Motel Broken Hill

Day 12

Leaving Broken Hill, we travel approximately 100kms south along the Silver City Highway then take the "Eastern Road" through the Stations of Harriedale, Loch Lilly, Oakvale and Quandong to Burra and Adelaide .

Tour Includes:

- Twelve days fully escorted 4WD Outback touring
- All morning and afternoon teas
- All Lunches
- All evening meals
- Accommodation as described in the itinerary
- All park entry fees and permits
- Complimentary home pick-up in metropolitan area.

Per person twin share : $6545 all inclusive
Single Supplement : $600

.Departure Date Saturday 5th June 2027