

***Central
Queensland
Outback
&
Carnarvon
Gorge Tour***

Including 3 Nights in Longreach

(12 Days / 11 Nights)

\$2,910.00 p.p.t.s

Friday 20th September to Tuesday 1st October 2019

Inclusions: *Depart from Turrumurra Railway Station. Accommodation & All Meals. Entrance fees to all tourist attractions and tours as per itinerary. Luxury Coach Travel,*

Highlights: *Ray Station Tour, Stockman's Hall Of Fame, Qantas Museum, Waltzing Matilda Centre in Winton, Thomson River Cruise & Camp Oven Dinner, Captain Starlight Sound & Light Show, School of the Air Tour, The Tree of Knowledge in Barcaldine, Carnarvon Gorge National Park & Moree Pecan Nut Farm Tour plus more.*

Taylor Made Tours Pty Ltd

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Itinerary for the 12 day Central 2ld & Carnarvon Gorge Tour

Day 1

Sydney to Nyngan

We leave from Turramurra Railway Station & head for our crossing of the Blue Mountains via Windsor with our first stop at Lithgow for morning tea. We travel via Mudgee with a stop at Gulgong for a BBQ lunch. Another stop in Trangie to stretch our legs. We should arrive in Nyngan around 5.00pm for our overnight accommodation.

Day 2

Nyngan to Charleville

We leave Nyngan at 8.00am or earlier and head north along the Mitchell Highway or The Kidman Way as locals would call it, arriving in Bourke for morning tea on the Darling River. A photo shot of the North Bourke Bridge & then onto a one pub village, Barrington located on the NSW-QLD border for lunch arriving around 12.30pm. Leaving here we move onto the sheep grazing town of Cunnamulla which lies on the Warrego River. This town was created by the Cobb & Co in the late 1800's & it was from here sheep farmers moved into the area. We'll have a look at the "Cunnamulla Fellow" before arriving in Charleville around 5.30pm .

Day 3 & 4

Ray Station

After breakfast we'll visit the "Historical House" which was built in 1881 and houses some original memorabilia. We'll inspect the Steiger Vortex Gun, one of six used in the area during the great drought of the late 1800's. No rain fell except the hopes of the inventor who rapidly left town! We leave Charleville & travel west to the heart of the Mulga country, and reach the Foxtrap Roadhouse at Cooladdi in time for lunch. The afternoon tour brings us to Quilpie where we stretch our legs. Time permitting we drop into St Finbarr's, the Roman Catholic Church, where the altar, font and lectern have been made out of opal rocks and well worth a visit. We leave Quilpie & head north west and reach historic Ray Station, **our base for the next 2 nights**. The Station was settled in 1874 by Patsy and Sarah Tully (nee Durack). 130 years later the property remains in the family and is now run by Sandra and Mark Tully (5th generation). We have a full day discovering about the life & history of this outback station. Tonight enjoy dinner & join in with the guitar and piano, singing & bush poetry around the campfire.

Day 5

Longreach



After breakfast 9.00am we visit the Stockman's Hall of Fame, one of the greatest exhibits in country Australia. This museum pays tribute to pioneers of the Australian Outback. The founder, Hugh Sawrey, a former stockman & painter had a vision to create a memorial to the explorers, overlanders, pioneers & settlers of outback Australia. There will be an outback show performed with stock horses & cattle dogs in the complex during the course of the morning. (Lunch at own expense) at Stockman's Hall of Fame. A free afternoon to relax around the pool or some shopping in town. We depart the motel around 5.00pm as tonight we enjoy a sunset evening cruise on the

Thomson River aboard the "Thomson Belle" paddle wheeler. We enjoy a drover's meal with refreshments at the "Sheraton on the Thomson", the restaurant under the stars, with entertainment around the blazing campfire. We cap the night off with a cup of genuine billy tea & fresh damper. Back at our motel around 9.30pm.

Day 6

Winton

After breakfast we leave for Winton, the heart of Matilda Country. We will have morning tea & a town tour before we visit the Waltzing Matilda Centre. You can pull up a stump by the water's edge, in the "Billabong Theatre" where the ghost tells his side of the story of Waltzing Matilda & the story of the song that has had an impact on Australian culture. After this you can explore the Qantilda Pioneer Place Museum & the Outback Regional Gallery. A BBQ lunch will be prepared with some refreshments. After lunch time to explore the township including the famous North Gregory Hotel, where Banjo Patterson wrote Australia's most famous song in 1895, the Historic Royal Theatre, one of the few remaining open air theatres in Aust & "Arno's Wall, a strange mix of art & architecture. We then leave Winton & travel back to Longreach. Dinner in the motel's restaurant.

Day 7

Longreach

Breakfast at leisure before we visit the School of the Air for a guided tour. We then have a visit to the Qantas Museum. Lunch in town before we return to our motel for a free afternoon & a rest before dinner in the restaurant.

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Day 8

Carnarvon Gorge

We leave Longreach after breakfast at 8.00am & follow the Capricorn Highway east stopping at Ilfracombe to view the various farming machinery that have been donated to the township. The townsite was part of "Wellshot Station". In 1892 it was regarded as the biggest sheep station in the world. We continue to Barcaldine, a centre for the district's wool & cattle industries. We take a look at the "Tree of Knowledge", which was the meeting place during the Shearer's Strike of 1891 & led to the formation of the Australia Labour Party. We have morning tea before continuing onto Alpha for a picnic lunch. A photo stop at the Heritage Railway Station in Emerald before connecting with the Gregory Highway & head south to Carnarvon Gorge via Springsure & Rolleston. We arrive at the Carnarvon Wilderness Lodge in the National Park to check in for the next 2 nights. Our accommodation are luxury ensuite safari cabins. Dinner will be in the restaurant.

Day 9

Carnarvon Gorge

A hearty breakfast this morning in the restaurant & then we have a ranger to give us a guided tour to Baloon Cave & the Rock Pool. An easy level walk this morning & then returning back to the Headquarters via Mickey's Creek. A lunch will be provided in the restaurant & then a free afternoon to just relax on your cabin verandah reading a book or relaxing around the swimming pool. Dinner will be in the Restaurant.

Day 10

Carnarvon to Moree

We farewell Carnarvon Gorge departing at 8.00am & follow the Carnarvon Highway via Injune & arriving at Roma for morning tea. We will visit the Big Rig Museum before continuing south to Surat for a picnic lunch. Onto the town of St George, that lies on the Balonne River a tributary to the Darling River and then arriving at Mungindi on the Qld/NSW border for a stretch of the legs. We arrive in Moree for our accommodation for the next 2 nights. You wish to have an artesian hot spa before dinner in the motel's restaurant.

Day 11

Moree

This morning we collect our guide who will give us a very informative town tour of Moree. We will have morning tea in the park next to the information centre. The information Centre is also the place to purchase your pecans and cottonseed oil. Afterwards we will visit & drive around "Stahmann Pecan Nut Farm". On our way there we will view a video presentation of this incredible property. There are over 70,000 trees planted and they certainly make a majestic sight. We then travel back to Moree for lunch. After lunch we will take you to the "Moree Plains Gallery". For those who would like, you could make your own way back to the motel; this would give you an opportunity to browse the shops, or the coach will drop you back at the motel. (one last dip in the spa). Dinner will be served in the motel's restaurant.

Day 12

Moree to Sydney

Leaving Moree this morning with our first stop at Gunnedah for morning tea & stretch our legs. We will stop at the Durham Hotel in Wingen for lunch. Another stop near Wyong before arriving back in Sydney around 5.30pm.

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