

OUTBACK QUEENSLAND ADVENTURE



8 Days / 7 Nights



Fully Escorted by Val Henry

Departing Brisbane Thursday 10th - Friday 17th May 2012

\$1579.00* twin share

\$490.00 single supplement

**Price does not include return rail fare*

**Price based on minimum 20 paying passengers*



The Itinerary

Day 1. Thursday 10 May 2012: Brisbane / Charleville - Westlander

This afternoon meet at **Roma Street Station Brisbane** and board the **Westlander** (departing 07.15pm) for our overnight journey to Charleville. From Brisbane, the Westlander takes you across the towering mountains of the Great Dividing Range through the lush green countryside of the Darling Downs and out to historic **Charleville** in the heart of Mulga country. You will find your pioneering spirit and follow in the path of Queensland's famed explorers when we travel westward. You can purchase meals, breakfast and snacks whilst on board the Westlander.

Overnight: The Westlander

Day 2. Friday 11 May 2012: Charleville

Lunch & Dinner

Arriving into Charleville at approximately 12.00pm today we make our way to the famous **Historic House & Coronas Hotel** where we enjoy a "pub" lunch whilst taking in the treasures that surround us.

From here nostalgia buffs can then walk the halls of **Myendetta Homestead**. **Myendetta Homestead** is known as the house of a hundred doors. The house also has an amazingly high roof which is designed to keep it cool even on the hottest outback days. And despite the vast amount of timber that was used to build the house, there is not one single knot to be found in any of it.

We make our way to our accommodation for the night and have time to checkin and freshen up before making our way to the Cosmos Centre.

Find the answers to all your questions about the universe at the **Cosmos Centre and Observatory** where we will have a BBQ dinner prior to marvelling at the night skies through powerful telescopes. After nature has gifted us with a spectacular sight we will head back to our motel.

Overnight: Charleville Motel



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Day 3. Saturday 12 May 2012: Charleville / Quilpie

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After a hearty breakfast we will head out enroute to **Quilpie** and stop at **Cheepie the Friendly "Ghost Town"** of the outback. The township was formed when the railway first came through in 1914 and gradually grew to have a police station, blacksmith, railway station, tent boarding houses, butcher shop, bakery and two vegetable gardens. All that remains today of this once vibrant town is the old post office. We will visit the **historic original railway station at Cooladdi** and have some morning tea at the **Cooladdi Foxtrap** (own expense). This historic town at one stage had 250 residents but they have slowly drifted away. Now on any given day only around seven residents can be found in Cooladdi. Arriving in **Quilpie** we will visit **Ray Station** for lunch and learn of the legendary **Tully & Durack Families** who pioneered the pastoral industry in this region. **Ray Station's** 600 sq km remains one of the select few properties in Australia never to have changed hands since white settlement. See an **opal cutting demonstration**, marvel at the **opal altar of St Finbarr's** and learn of **Amy Johnson's** landing. Take in the panoramic views from **Baldy Top Lookout** and enjoy the tranquil **Lake Houdraman**. Take a tour of the **Open Cut Opal Mines** and fossick through the mullock heaps. This evening spend the night at **Ray Station** enjoy dinner and then maybe a glass of wine on the verandah.
Overnight: Ray Station

Day 4. Sunday 13 May 2012: Quilpie / Windorah

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast we explore the beauty of the **Barcoo**, with stunning vistas, picturesque ruins and historical sites. We will enjoy our packed lunch here. Just to the west of the town are the magnificent **red sand dunes**. We now follow a scenic nature drive to the mighty **Cooper's Creek** where you will be amazed at the abundance of birds and wildlife. After a full day of touring we will spend the night at the Western Star Hotel/ Motel where we will enjoy our evening meal.
Overnight: Western Star Hotel/Motel Windorah

Day 5. Monday 14 May 2012: Windorah /Longreach

Breakfast & Dinner

After a hearty breakfast we complete our final leg of our **Outback Adventure** travelling on to **Longreach**. Our journey takes us through the country towns of **Jundah** and **Stonehenge** where we will enjoy morning tea and lunch (own expense) as well as enjoying the natural beauty of the **Rock Holes** and **Swanvale Lookout**. After we have spent the first part of the day in these areas we will travel to **Longreach** where we will spend the afternoon at the **Qantas Founders Outback Museum** where we will follow the history of our national airline and discover the secrets of a 747 Jumbo Jet. Later in the evening we go to **Banjo's Outback Theatre and Wool Shed** where we will step back in time and enjoy shearing, poetry, laughter and song. After another fulfilling day we will be able to rest our weary bones at our motel.
Overnight: Longreach

Day 6. Tuesday 15 May 2012: Longreach

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast this morning we visit the **Longreach Saleyards** - one of the largest cattle selling centres in Queensland. Discover the challenges of teaching over the airwaves at the **School of Distance Education**. Spend the afternoon uncovering layers of pioneer history at the iconic **Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame**. We enjoy lunch in **Cattleman's Bar and Grill**, along with the **Outback Stockman's Show**. Tonight we enjoy dinner in our motel restaurant.
Overnight: Longreach

Day 7. Wednesday 16 May 2012: Longreach - Free Day

Breakfast & Dinner

This morning after breakfast we have a free day to enjoy the many attractions on offer in Longreach and surrounds. Perhaps a visit to **Wellshot Hotel and Centre** or perhaps a visit to the **Folk & Transport Museum**, the choice is yours. Tonight we freshen up at our motel before enjoying an evening soaking up a spectacular outback sunset with the **Drovers Extravaganza Dinner**. Sit back and be charmed by outback entertainers and enjoy an outback themed dinner. A truly memorable way to enjoy our last night in Outback Queensland.
Overnight: Longreach

Day 8. Thursday 17 May 2012: Friday 18 May 2012: Longreach / Brisbane

This morning it's up bright and early to make our way to the train station to board the **Spirit of the Outback** (departing Longreach at 07.15am) back to Brisbane. We travel over night through **Emerald and Rockhampton** arriving back into Brisbane **Friday morning at 07.10am**. Meals, breakfast and snacks can be purchased whilst on board the Spirit of the Outback.

Tour Price Includes:

- 6 nights accommodation
- Quality Coach charter
- 6 Dinners, 5 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches
- All touring, guides and attractions as per the itinerary



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Tour Highlights:

Myendetta Homestead, Historic House & Coronas Hotel, Cosmos Centre & Observatory, Quilpie, Coolad-di, Ray Station, Lake Houdraman, Barcoo, Cooper's Creek, Qantas Founders Outback Museum, Banjo's Outback Theatre & Wool Shed, Longreach Saleyards, Stockman's Hall of Fame and much more.

***Rail Fares: At additional cost (prices subject to change)**

Brisbane - Charleville Westlander

Australian Government Seniors Concession

\$201.78 per person Economy twin sleeper - no single sleepers on Westlander

\$137.78 per person Economy triple sleeper

\$71.78 per person Economy seat only

Queensland Government Pensioner using vouchers

\$120.00 per person Economy twin sleeper

\$78.50 per person Economy triple sleeper

\$12.50 per person and 1 voucher for Economy seat only

Longreach - Brisbane Spirit of Outback

Australian Government Seniors Concession

\$323.00 per person Economy twin / single sleeper

\$189.95 per person Economy triple sleeper

\$114.95 per person Economy seat only

Queensland Government Pensioner using vouchers

\$186.00 per person Economy twin / single sleeper

\$87.50 per person Economy triple sleeper

\$12.50 per person and 1 voucher for Economy seat only

**For all bookings and enquiries please contact:
Val Henry at Donald Simpson Centre
or
Trade Travel
Ph: 1800 645 103 or 07 5574 3733**

