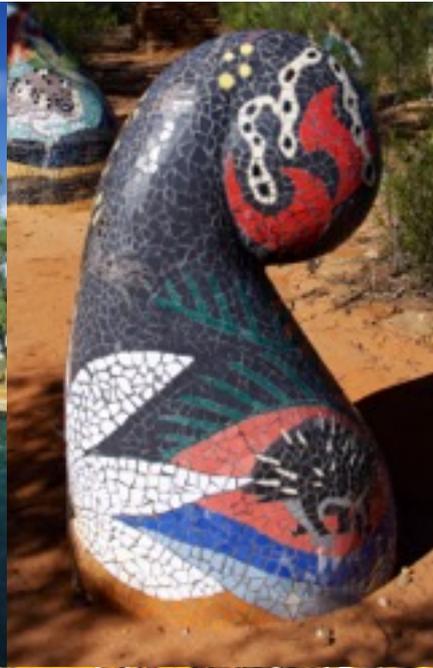


Central NSW Insights

5th - 12th May 2016





Insights Tours invites you to join us on a tour of Central New South Wales by privately chartered heritage railcars.

The eight-day tour traverses the diverse landscapes of the Hawkesbury River, Hunter Valley, fertile Liverpool Plains, iconic Pilliga Forest, the mountains and rolling tablelands of the Great Dividing Range, and the outback opal-mining town of Lightning Ridge.

Our chartered train offers approximately 96 seats over two-carriages, and our customary guest-to-seat ratio ensures a spacious and comfortable travel experience.

Our train will be accompanied by road coach, facilitating a wide variety of sightseeing and opportunities for some fascinating insights into the history, industry, natural environment, culture and communities within Central New South Wales.

We look forward to welcoming you on *Central NSW Insights*.

John and Paul Tuckerman

Touring Programme

Day 1 Thursday 5th May Thirroul and Sydney to Toronto

Meet at Thirroul Railway Station where our specially chartered train awaits. We travel via the scenic Illawarra line to Sydney Central Station, where guests may also join the tour. Morning tea will be served as we travel northward to Hawkesbury River, where we alight for a river cruise with a focus on the historical and military heritage of the river. Lunch will be served on the boat. Re-joining the train, our journey hugs the water's edge of the estuaries of the Hawkesbury, Mullet Creek and Brisbane Water, prosaic names that belie one of the most beautiful sights from a train window. On arrival at Fassifern, our coach will transfer us to our hotel at Toronto on the shores of Lake Macquarie. Accommodation overnight.



Photo: Hamilton Lund; Destination NSW

Day 2 Friday 6th May Toronto to Scone

The morning begins with a visit to Dobell House, the home and studio of the late Sir William Dobell, one of Australia's most acclaimed artists, winner of the Archibald Prize and the Wynne Prize for landscape. After a presentation about Dobell, his art and the history of Dobell House, you will have the opportunity to wander the House and Studio at your leisure. Transferring to our train, we travel next to the historic city of Maitland on the Hunter River. Enjoy a light lunch at Brough



Photo: Dobell House



Photo: Grossman House

House before our guided tour of neighbouring Grossman House, restored Victorian Regency townhouses held by the National Trust. In addition to its interesting history as a 19th-century residence and later school, Grossman House also holds an extensive collection of 19th century clothing and textiles. Guests will have the opportunity if they prefer for a self-guided walk around

Maitland's heritage precinct before re-joining the train for the journey to Scone in the Upper Hunter, famous for its thoroughbred horse studs. Accommodation overnight.

Day 3 Saturday 7th May Scone to Narrabri

We depart Scone by train, leaving behind the Upper Hunter as the railway line ascends the Liverpool Range. The heritage-listed Ardglen Tunnel, at the summit of the range, is the oldest single-line tunnel (c 1877) in New South Wales, and still in use today. Emerging from the tunnel, we enter a whole new world – that of the North West Slopes and Plains. We alight at Quirindi in the heart of this fertile agricultural region for a morning visit to the farmers' market and arts and craft exhibition, take in the big sky views at Who'd A Thought Lookout (really!) and enjoy a coffee at a country cafe (not included in tariff). Back on the train, we continue to Werris Creek, historically a bustling railway hub and once-substantial railway depot, where we visit the excellent Rail Journeys Museum, housed on the platform of Werris Creek Station and the Australian Railway Monument. Lunch is served en route to Narrabri, arriving mid-afternoon. Local guides welcome us to Narrabri for a tour of the town and visit to the local museum. Two nights accommodation at Narrabri.

Day 4 Sunday 8th May Lightning Ridge Day Trip

An exciting day trip to the outback mining-town of Lightning Ridge, famous as the source of the rare black opal. Leaving from our accommodation, our coach takes us direct to Lightning Ridge. A local guided tour, including a visit to an opal mine, will give us an insight into opal mining and the way of life in the black opal capital. After lunch, there will be time to take in the opal galleries and workshops or a soak in the hot artesian baths, before departing for Burren Junction, where our train will be waiting to convey us to Narrabri, with afternoon tea served on board.

Day 5 Monday 9th May Narrabri to Coonabarabran



Photo: Michael Stephenson

The highlight of today is a tour of the Pilliga Forest, a vast and ancient landscape, with a long and varied human history, and a unique and rich natural environment. The Gamilaroi people have a connection with the Pilliga, dating thousands of years and continuing today. The Sandstone Caves

are a special place for the Gamilaroi and we begin with an Aboriginal Discovery Ranger guided tour of the caves, before heading to Dandry Gorge for a picnic lunch and the impressive Sculptures in the Scrub. We will have ample time to enjoy the loop walk before our coach takes us to historic Wooleybah Sawmill, the only remaining bush sawmill remaining intact, where a local resident will share the district's timber-cutting history. We also visit the Pilliga Forest Discovery Centre before concluding the day's touring in Coonabarabran. Accommodation overnight.

Day 6 Tuesday 10th May Coonabarabran to Orange

Today our train takes us on a cross-country tour via Dubbo and Narromine to Peak Hill to visit the Parkes Radio Telescope, which, besides exploring deep space has also inspired the Australian film, The Dish. Lunch at the eponymous Dish Cafe onsite before we travel to the small town of Manildra, to the art deco Amusu Theatre for our very own screening of a classic film in an authentic country cinema. After the film, our train will convey us to Orange in the Central Tablelands, with dinner served on board. Accommodation overnight at Orange.

Day 7 Wednesday 11th May Orange to Lithgow

The day starts with a city tour with local guide, concluding at Cook Park. Established in 1873, this 4.5 ha park is a fine example of the Victorian garden typical of the era and showcases the colours of Orange, along with plants from around the world and Australia, with many original trees now well into their second century. We board our train and depart Orange through the picturesque Central Tablelands via Blayney and Bathurst to the quaint village of Tarana, where we alight for lunch at the atmospheric hotel located a short stroll from the station. After lunch we continue to Lithgow and visit historic Eskbank House Museum, rescued from dereliction and now restored to tell its unique story as a pivotal part of Australia's early steelmaking industry. Accommodation overnight at Lithgow.



Photo: Eskbank House Museum

Day 8 Thursday 12th May Lithgow to Sydney and Thirroul

Our coach takes us from Lithgow to Mount Wilson for a tour of the acclaimed Windyridge private garden. We descend the Blue Mountains via the Bell's Line Road to Richmond, where we join our train for the final leg to Sydney and Thirroul, enjoying lunch as we travel through the rapidly changing outskirts of Sydney, where historic towns meet Australia's largest and most populous city.

The tour concludes at your choice of either Sydney or Thirroul.

General Information & Booking Conditions

Cost

The cost of this tour is \$3,495 AUD.

The cost includes:

- ☼ all train travel as per the itinerary
- ☼ good quality motel accommodation on a twin-share basis in ensuite rooms
- ☼ all meals
- ☼ services of Insights Tours' tour-guide throughout the tour
- ☼ all road transport in a chartered air conditioned coach
- ☼ all sightseeing excursions, guided touring and entrance fees to all places as specified in the itinerary
- ☼ all taxes and tips
- ☼ drinking water on the coach

Additional costs:

- ☼ drinks, travel insurance and items of a personal nature
- ☼ any other cost not included in tour cost

Single supplement

Single accommodation is available for an additional cost of \$420.

Booking

Please complete the enclosed booking form and return it to Insights Tours with your deposit. Places on the tour require a \$500 deposit.

The balance will be due by Friday 4th March 2016.

Cancellation Policy

For cancellations on or before Friday 4th March 2016

If you need to cancel your booking prior to or on Friday 4th March 2016, the cancellation fee is \$200 per person.

For cancellations after Friday 4th March 2016

If you need to cancel your booking after Friday 4th March, the cancellation fee is 100% of the total tariff, that is, there is no refund of the total tariff.

Insights Tours strongly recommends that you consider travel insurance in case you need to cancel.

Insurance

We strongly recommend considering travel insurance to cover cancellation fees as well as medical emergencies, lost luggage and unforeseen delays during the tour. Insights Tours can

provide information about obtaining insurance. We are an accredited agent of Aussie Travel Cover insurance.

Viability of Tour

In the event that the economic minimum number of guests is not reached, the tour will be cancelled by Insights Tours no later than Wednesday 9th March 2016 and we will refund in full any money paid.

Railmotors

Insights Tours has chartered a 620 Class railcar from the Railmotor Society. The railcar has seating for approximately 96 passengers however Insights Tours has limited the number of guests to a total of 42 to ensure a comfortable and spacious travelling experience.

Coach

Insights Tours has chartered an air-conditioned coach for all transfers and road travel as described in the itinerary.

Luggage

Please limit your luggage to 1 suitcase and 1 piece of hand luggage per person.

Porterage of luggage can be provided as a special service however we request that you notify us at the time you make your booking

Guides

Insights Tours has engaged our own proficient guides wherever we have advertised a guided tour in the itinerary.

Water

Insights Tours will provide a complimentary water bottle which can be refilled as you require on the coach

Meals

All meals are included and are a set menu. We take care to ensure that the menu is varied throughout the tour. Please ensure that you carefully note any dietary or any other requests on your booking form so that we can oblige your requirements.

Changes to the itinerary

There is always the chance that our itinerary could be delayed or curtailed in some way beyond our control. Except for prolonged or unexpected events, the tour will be conducted as closely as possible to the itinerary stated above. Every reasonable endeavour will be made to conduct the advertised itinerary however we reserve the right to alter the itinerary in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

About Insights Tours



Insights Tours is a boutique tour business operated by Paul and John Tuckerman. We arrange tours which utilise coaches, aeroplanes and trains and provide our guests with spacious and comfortable accommodation. Our philosophy is to arrange tours with a spectrum of interesting visits, inspections and conveyances.

Each tour is uniquely arranged to encompass the most interesting sights of the regions visited. Insights Tours engages our own guides to ensure that our guests have the best insight into the location being visited.

Guest numbers are limited to ensure a commodious travelling experience and to ensure that visits and guided tours are of maximum benefit. This tour is for a maximum of 40 guests.

Each of our tours is personally escorted ensuring you can relax in the confidence that all of the pesky administrative details and arrangements are being taken care of. This tour will be escorted by John Tuckerman.

If you would like more details about any aspect of the itinerary or facilities, please contact Paul Tuckerman:

Telephone: (61) 02 4267 2535

Facsimile: (61) 02 4267 5530

Email: paul@insightstours.com.au

Postal: PO Box 180

Thirroul NSW 2515

In person: by appointment at 14 Allenby Parade Bulli

Central NSW Insights

Booking Form

	Guest 1	Guest 2
Name		
Address		
Telephone		
Email		
Emergency Contact Person & Telephone		
Any special requirements or requests (especially dietary)		
Room type (please circle)	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin (2 beds) <input type="checkbox"/> Double (1 large bed) <input type="checkbox"/> Single supplement (additional \$420)	
Deposit * Cheque enclosed - Please make cheques payable to "Insights Tours" * Electronic transfer/direct deposit Account Name: Insights Tours Client Travel Account BSB: 062607 Account Number: 10131313		

I/we acknowledge the terms and conditions of booking

Signature/s

Guest 1

Guest 2

Please return to: Insights Tours
PO Box 180
THIRROUL NSW 2515
Facsimile: +61 2 42 675530