



Lake Eyre by Air

Monday 7th to Sunday 13th June 2021

If you've ever thought of seeing spectacular Lake Eyre, don't wait any longer! Our *Lake Eyre by Air* tour by private aircraft gives you the perfect opportunity to visit this fascinating part of the outback – cover huge distances and varied terrain in comfort and gain access to the isolated gems of this region. With a bird's eye view, you will gain an incredible perspective and appreciation of the enormity of Lake Eyre and its vast river systems.

The tour encompasses the corner country of Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales, characterised by mulga country, immense intermittent flood plains, red desert dunes and salt pans, ancient mountain ranges and lunar landscapes. Visit places with astounding history like Lake Mungo, where human remains dating from 40,000 years have been found – as well as the iconic and infamous, like Birdsville, Cooper Creek, and the Dig Tree. Your accommodation is as varied as the landscape and is part of the experience – stay on an outback cattle station, Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary in the Flinders Ranges, Mungo Lodge, and the famous Birdsville Hotel.

Lake Eyre by Air is an exclusive, unique and fully escorted and has a maximum of 6 guests

Day 1

Monday 7th June – Wollongong to Kilcowera

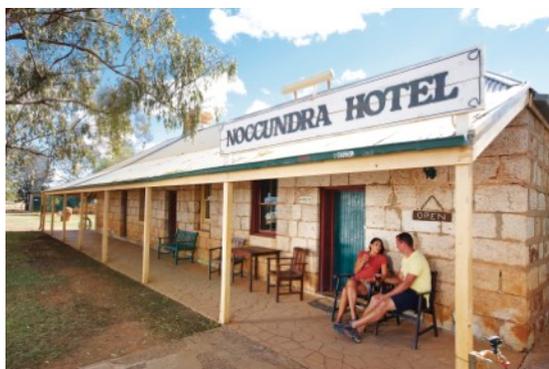
Depart Illawarra Regional Airport, stopping briefly at Bourke for a comfort stop, before heading further north-west and over the border into Queensland to Kilcowera Station. The owners, Toni and Greg, meet us at their airstrip and take us on a tailored tour of their massive property where you'll hear what life is like on an outback station and see the diverse landscape. We also visit Rustler's Gorge and have distant views of Lake Wyara in Currawinya National Park, which adjoins Kilcowera station.

Overnight at Kilcowera Station.

Day 2

Tuesday 8th June – Kilcowera to Innamincka

A short morning flight to Thargomindah. A local guide will take us on a tour of this historic town on the Bulloo River. We visit the old hydro power station, which gave Thargomindah the distinction of being the first Queensland town outside Brisbane to be supplied with electricity, as well as Leahy House and the historic old hospital. After morning tea we fly to Noccundra, where the stone hotel (circa 1882) is all that remains of a gazetted



town on the banks of the Wilson River. Enjoy lunch in the historic dining room, with a stroll afterwards to the river. Flying west from Noccundra, a tremendous view of the expansive floodplain of the Cooper Creek unfolds, before we arrive at Innamincka in South Australia. This tiny outback locality belies its historic significance for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples – a place of abundant water and food, spiritual site and a community hub for an isolated settler population. Visit the restored Elizabeth Symon Heritage Nursing station established by the Rev John Flynn's Australian Inland Mission and end the day on a sunset cruise on Cooper Creek, a wetland oasis amidst the dunes.

Overnight at Innamincka Hotel.

Day 3

Wednesday 9th June – Innamincka to Birdsville

We land at Nappa Merrie station, which acts as caretaker for the Burke and Wills Dig Tree site, where the hapless explorers tragically perished on the return from their epic overland trip to the Gulf of Carpentaria. A short walk from the airstrip leads us to a self-guided interpretive display at the picturesque site on the banks of Cooper Creek.

Up into the skies again, we fly across the Strzelecki Desert to Birdsville. Experience the serenity of the desert on a sunset tour to Big Red, one of the largest sand dunes in the



Dig Tree



Big Red

Simpson Desert, about 40 kms from Birdsville.

Overnight at Birdsville Hotel.

Day 4

Thursday 10th June – Birdsville to Arkaroola

Morning departure for the highlight of the tour – mighty Lake Eyre. We overfly Poeppels Corner where the borders of South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory meet, then track south over the stunning and intriguingly-shaped salt lakes of the Simpson Desert to the magnificent expanse of Lake Eyre. We overfly the western shore of the lake and the monumental Warburton Groove, the astonishing northern entrance of the lake. See all the major watercourses which flow into Lake Eyre including Kallakoopah Creek, Warburton Creek, Cooper Creek, Neales River and Macumba River. After a comprehensive sightseeing flight of both Lake Eyre North and Lake Eyre South, we land at Marree for lunch in the dining room of the Transcontinental Hotel, an imposing two-storey structure built for the passing traffic of the original Ghan railway.



Lake Eyre (John Tuckerman)

After lunch, a one-hour flight takes us to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, an award-winning sanctuary in the rugged and spectacular northern Flinders Ranges.

Overnight at Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary.



Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary and Ridgetop Tour (Copyright SATC), Wilpena Pound (John Tuckerman)

Day 5

Friday 11th June – Arkaroola to Broken Hill

The spectacular accredited ecotourism Ridgetop Tour by specially constructed open top 4WD traverses some of the most rugged country on earth, to the depths of ancient seabeds and across razor-back ridges to the magnificent and hair-raising climax at Sillers Lookout. A trained tour guide will share their knowledge of Arkaroola's ancient geology, local history and flora and fauna.

In the afternoon, the Flinders Ranges experience is completed as we fly over Wilpena Pound, a truly remarkable geological formation best appreciated with a bird's eye view and continue to the silver mining city of Broken Hill. Famed around the world for its extraordinarily rich silver, lead and zinc mining which has been operating since 1883. We visit the Living Desert and Sculptures to watch the sunset then enjoy dinner at the Musician's Club - a short walk from our centrally located motel.

Overnight at Crystal Motel.

Day 6

Saturday 12th June – Broken Hill to Lake Mungo

A morning tour of the highlights of Broken Hill including the Line of Lode Lookout, the Miner's Memorial, the iconic Trades Hall building and the Sulphide Street railway station before our flight south over the Darling River and the Menindee Lakes en route to Lake Mungo, where we stay at the beautifully appointed Mungo Lodge. After lunch at the lodge, we visit Mungo National Park in outback NSW. This extraordinary area is part of the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area, a chain of once-lush lakes between

Willandra Creek and the Lachlan River. Lake Mungo dried up around 14,000 years ago, and today a great crescent-shaped dune, called the Walls of China, stretches along the eastern shore of the lakebed. It was here that the world discovered the deep human history of Australia, with the dating at 40,000 years of the remains of Mungo Man and Mungo Lady, now returned to Mungo and the traditional owners of the land.

Our tour visits Lake Mungo, the Walls of China, Mungo Visitor Centre and the Mungo Woolshed, built by Chinese labourers back in 1869.

Overnight Mungo Lodge.



Walls of China



Shear Outback (Destination NSW)

Day 7

Sunday 13th June – Lake Mungo to Wollongong

After a leisurely breakfast we take off for Hay, where we have a tour of the town with a local guide. Visit Shear Outback, telling the stories of the outback's legendary shearers, and the Dunera Museum at the Hay Railway Station which details Hay's World War II POW camp history. After lunch, return to Wollongong, arriving about 5pm.

General Information & Booking Conditions

Cost

The cost of this tour is \$7,925 AUD. The cost includes:

- accommodation on a twin-share basis in ensuite rooms. Please refer to detailed information under Accommodation below.
- all meals
- private, chartered aircraft travel as per the itinerary
- services of Insights Tours' Tour Escort throughout the tour

- all road transport as per the itinerary
- all sightseeing excursions, guided touring and entrance fees to all places as specified in the itinerary
- all taxes, charges and entry fees
- a personal complimentary reusable metal water bottle

Additional costs

The additional costs are: drinks, travel insurance and items of a personal nature and anything not specified above.

Single supplement

Single occupancy of a room is available for an additional cost of AUD 282.

To make a booking

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

The balance will be due by Friday 9th April 2021.

Cancellation policy

For cancellations on or before Friday 9th April 2021 the cancellation fee will be the amount of the deposit.

For cancellations after Friday 9th April 2021 the cancellation fee will be the total tariff.

Insights Tours strongly recommends that insurance cover be obtained.

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 Monday 12th April 2021 and we will refund in full any money paid

Luggage

Please limit your luggage to a maximum of 10kgs per person

Accommodation

The standard of accommodation is good motel style accommodation except for Killcowera Station where our accommodation is in the Shearers Quarters. These rooms are comfortable and well maintained but do not have ensuite facilities. Showers and toilets are located in a separate adjacent building.

Aircraft

We fly in a turbine powered Cessna Caravan aircraft (similar to the plane pictured) which is certified as one of the safest single engine aeroplanes. It is equipped with 6 passenger seats and as we have a maximum of 6 guests, everyone has a window seat and we fly at altitudes which afford the best views commensurate with safety and operational requirements.



Guest numbers will be limited to a maximum of 6 to ensure your safety and comfort. The aircraft has been chartered by Insights Tours from There by Air Pty Ltd. The Cessna Caravan offers a spacious interior, combined with first class safety and performance. It is powered by a Pratt and Whitney PT-6 Turboprop engine - one of the most reliable engines in the world.

Each guest has a window seat and because the aircraft has a high wing, each passenger is afforded uninterrupted

viewing. There are airstairs which provide easy access to the cabin.

Transfers and tour vehicles

Sightseeing excursions and transfers will be conducted in a mini-bus except at Marree and at Hay where 4WD vehicles will be utilised. At Arkaroola the Ridge Top tour is conducted in an open sided specially constructed 4WD.

COVID-Safe

Insights Tours is a registered, experienced Covid-Safe operator. All tours will operate pursuant to Department of Health guidelines in operation at the time of travel. Prior to departure detailed advice will be provided to you about precautions that may be necessary during the tour. In the event of a government imposed restriction preventing the operation of the tour, all moneys paid by you will be refunded.

Force Majeure

Insights Tours will not be liable for any failure or delay in performing an obligation under this Agreement that is due to any of the following causes, to the extent beyond its reasonable control: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crisis, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, natural catastrophes, governmental acts or omissions, changes in laws or regulations, national strikes, fire, explosion, generalized lack of availability of raw materials or energy.

Limitation of liability

Subject to Australian Consumer Law, Insights Tours does not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused by suppliers or third party providers over whom Insights Tours has no direct control.

Agents not liable for force majeure or any other event which is beyond agent's control or which is not preventable by agent.

Insights Tours arranges and coordinates services provided by suppliers and Insights Tours cannot guarantee the performance of suppliers.

Cover Images: Lake Eyre (John Tuckerman), Sillers Lookout (SATC)

About Insights Tours



Insights Tours is a tour company operated by Paul, Brigitte and John Tuckerman. We arrange tours which utilise chartered trains, coaches and aeroplanes and provide our guests with spacious and comfortable accommodation. Our philosophy is to provide a tour 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 passengers 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. Each of our tours is personally escorted ensuring you can relax in the confidence that all of the pesky administrative details and arrangements are taken care of.

If you would like details or assistance with any booking, please contact John:

Telephone: (+61) 02 4268 6581

Email: john@insightstours.com.au

Postal: PO Box 180, Thirroul NSW 2515

In person: 14 Allenby Parade, Bulli (by appointment)

Booking Form

Lake Eyre by Air

Monday 7th to Sunday 13th June 2021

	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 (Single occupancy of double room. Additional AUD 282)	
Deposit <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque enclosed - Please make cheques payable to "Insights Tours" - or - <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic transfer/direct deposit Account Name: Insights Tours Client Travel Account BSB: 062607 Account Number: 10131313 - or - <input type="checkbox"/> credit card payments can be made via our secure <i>Payments</i> page on our website		

I/we acknowledge the terms and conditions of booking

Signature/s

Guest 1

Guest 2

Date _____

Please return by email or post to:

john@tuckerman.id.au
or Insights Tours
PO Box 180
THIRROUL NSW 2515