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# Outback by Air

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Tuesday 27th September to Sunday 2nd October 2022



Our *Outback by Air* tour by private aircraft gives you the perfect opportunity to visit many fascinating parts 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 Queensland Channel Country, the enormity of Lake Eyre and its vast river systems and the magnificent Flinders Ranges.

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, Winton, Painted Desert and Lark Quarry. Your accommodation is as varied as the landscape and is part of the experience. Outback by Air is inclusive of all meals and touring, is fully escorted and has a maximum of 7 guests.

## Day 1

### Tuesday 27th September – Wollongong to Thargomindah

Depart Shellharbour Airport, heading north west over inland NSW and the Ramsar listed Macquarie Marshes before landing at Bourke for a comfort stop. Heading further north-west and over the border into Queensland to Eulo, we land at this tiny town – home to the Eulo Queen Hotel with its exotic and intriguing history. The queen title relates to the Mauritian lady who co-established the hotel in 1886 and the myths and legends of her characterise this unique pub where we have lunch – a stroll from the airstrip.

A short flight to Thargomindah where we tour 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 restored hospital.

Overnight at the Oasis Motel

## Day 2

### Wednesday 28th September – Thargomindah to Winton

A morning flight to Lark Quarry. Flying west from Thargomindah, a tremendous view of the expansive floodplain of the Cooper Creek unfolds, before we overfly the remote settlement of Windorah. This is the heart of the famed Channel Country and you'll appreciate why it's so called after seeing this spectacular landscape.

We land near Lark Quarry Conservation Park to come face-to-face with ancient history – this is the site of the world's only known dinosaur stampede site, nowadays protected inside a solar-powered shelter, the Dinosaur Stampede National Monument.

Here, you'll be transported back to a prehistoric age—the site reveals a snapshot of history 95 million years in the making! Gaze in awe at more than 3,300 dinosaur footprints embedded in a fossilised rock face, thought to be the result of a dinosaur stampede—a palaeontologists paradise!



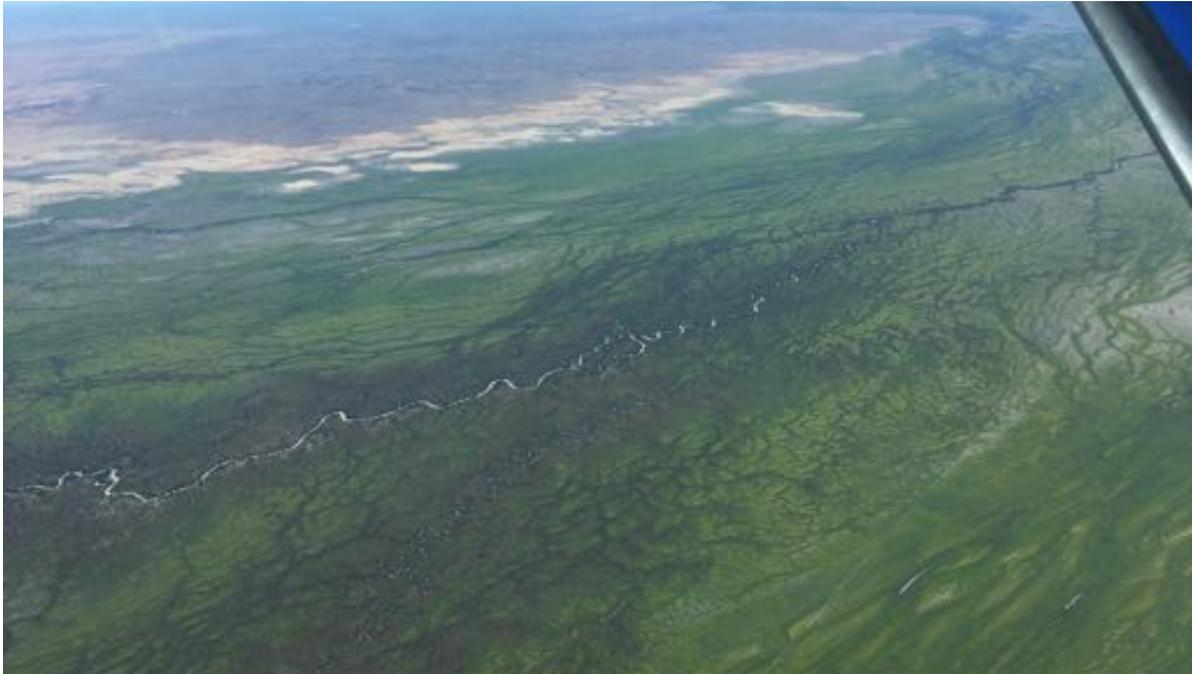
Dinosaur Stampede National Monument (Tourism and Events)

A short flight takes us to Winton – home of the Waltzing Matilda Centre telling the story of Banjo Paterson's most famous work. We'll have an introduction to Winton and its place in aeronautical history before checking into our accommodation.

Overnight at North Gregory Hotel.

## Day 3

Thursday 29th September – Winton to Birdsville



Queensland Channel Country . Image John Tuckerman

We follow the Diamantina River from near its headwaters west of Winton, all the way to Birdsville. At our lower flight altitude we enjoy a perspective only possible from our plane.

Arriving at Birdsville in time for lunch at the iconic hotel then some time to visit the Simpson Desert National Park Visitor Centre. Experience the serenity of the desert on a sunset tour to Big Red, one of the largest sand dunes in the Simpson Desert, about 40 kms from Birdsville.

Overnight at Birdsville Hotel.

## Day 4

Friday 30th September – Birdsville to Arkaroola

Morning departure for the highlight of the tour – mighty Lake Eyre. We overfly 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 most of the major watercourses which flow into Lake Eyre including Kallakoopah Creek, Warburton Creek, Neales River and Macumba River. After a comprehensive sightseeing flight over the Painted Desert near Coober Pedy we land at the remote outpost of William Creek and enjoy lunch at the hotel.

In the afternoon, our flight takes over the southern part of Lake Eyre and Marree Man - a mysterious, giant excavation in the remote desert then over Lake Torrens to the Flinders Ranges. We fly over Wilpena Pound, a truly remarkable geological formation best appreciated from our special aerial viewpoint and continue to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, an award-winning property in the rugged and spectacular northern Flinders Ranges where we stay 2 nights.



Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary views(Copyright SATC), Willpena Pound (John Tuckerman)

Overnight at Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary.

## Day 5

### Saturday 1st October – Arkaroola

A specially arranged day 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. Travel along creeks overshadowed by long-lived gum trees, explore wide-open plains and historic locations of Copper Mines.

Our guide will share knowledge of Arkaroola's ancient geology, local history and flora and fauna for a fascinating journey as you travel along the wide expanses of Arkaroola creek with its majestic River Red Gums and explore the eastern side of Arkaroola including the unique Paralana Hot Springs with its radiogenically heated water and site of a 1920's health spa. We also visit the East Painter Gorge and Yudnamutana Gorges and enjoy this spectacular, ancient Flinders Ranges.

Overnight at Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary.

## Day 6

### Sunday 2nd October – Arkaroola to Wollongong

Our flight takes us south-east over the expanse of Lake Frome and the remote Mundi Mundi Plains before crossing the Barrier Ranges lying near the border of NSW and South Australia. After a bird's-eye view of the famed "Silver City" of Broken Hill we head east over the Menindee Lakes and the Darling River to Lake Mungo.

We land at Mungo where we meet our guide for an exclusive tour of the Lake Mungo dunes with a picnic lunch in a special place. 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 laborers back in 1869.

After our visit we reboard our plane for the flight to Wollongong arriving about 5pm.

## General Information & Booking Conditions

### Cost

The cost of this tour is \$11,495 AUD

The cost includes:

- travel by private chartered aircraft
- motel style accommodation on a twin share basis in ensuite rooms
- all sightseeing excursions, guided touring, transfers and entrance fees to all places as specified in the itinerary
- all meals
- services of Insights Tours' Tour Escort throughout the tour
- all taxes and charges
- 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 accommodation

Single occupancy of a room is available for an additional cost of \$340 AUD

### To make a booking

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

The balance will be due by Friday 29th July 2022.

### Cancellation policy

For cancellations on or before Friday 29th July 2022 the cancellation fee will be the amount of the deposit.

For cancellations after Friday 29th July 2022 the cancellation fee will be 100% of the total tariff, that is, there is no refund of the total tariff.

Insights Tours strongly recommends that insurance cover be obtained.

### Insurance

We strongly recommend travel insurance to cover cancellation fees as well as medical emergencies, including for eg; contracting Covid and being required to isolate, lost luggage and unforeseen delays during the tour. Insights Tours can provide information about obtaining insurance. We are an accredited agent of Covermore 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 1st August 2022 and we will refund in full any money paid.

### Luggage

Please limit your luggage to 1 suitcase and 1 piece of hand luggage per person. The maximum weight for your total luggage is 15kgs.

## Guides

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

## Accommodation

Motel style accommodation with ensuite facilities.

## 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.

## COVID-Safe

Insights Tours is an experienced COVID-Safe operator. All our tours operate pursuant to each respective state's Department of Health guidelines in operation at the time of travel.

## Compliance with COVID-Safe practices

It is a condition that guests agree to comply with all COVID-Safe practices during the tour. Prior to departure detailed advice will be provided to you about both recommended and mandatory precautions eg wearing of masks may be required at some places; that will be necessary during the tour.

By signing the booking form, you agree to comply with all COVID-Safe practices and directions.

## Vaccination certificate

To reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19 to the minimum practicable extent, Insights Tours requires as a condition of travel that:

1. all guests are fully vaccinated (unless medically exempted) including having received any government recommended boosters prior to the departure date; and
2. that guests provide evidence of their vaccination if requested.

Prior to the departure date, you must provide us, if requested, with a copy of your:

1. COVID-19 digital certificate; or

2. Your immunisation history statement.

which shows that you have received your COVID-19 vaccinations.

If we do not receive this by the departure date, you will be unable to travel.

## Cancellation of your booking

If you cannot travel due to COVID-19 related reasons such as:

1. contracting the virus;
2. being required to isolate; or
3. not being fully vaccinated by the departure date

the normal cancellation conditions apply.

Insights Tours recommends that you obtain travel insurance.

## 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 Insights Tours reserves the right to alter the itinerary in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

## 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, generalised 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.

Insights Tours not liable for force majeure or any other event which is beyond Insights Tours' control or which is not preventable by Insights Tours.

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

### Privacy and your data

Insights Tours provides data about you to third parties only to the absolute minimum necessary to provide you with our advertised

services. For example; we provide your name to accommodation providers for the purposes of registration as a guest where this is required by regulation.

### Aircraft

The aircraft that we will be travelling in is Cessna Caravan turbo prop plane. Guest numbers will be limited to a maximum of 7 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 air-stairs which provide easy access to the cabin.

## About Insights Tours

Insights Tours is a tour company operated by Paul, Brigitte and John Tuckerman. Our philosophy is to provide a tour with a spectrum of interesting visits, inspections and conveyances. We utilise chartered trains, coaches and aeroplanes and provide our guests with spacious and comfortable accommodation. 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. This tour will be for a maximum of 7 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 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: (by appointment): 14 Allenby Parade, Bulli

# Booking Form Outback by Air

Tuesday 27th September to Sunday 2nd October 2022

	Guest 1	Guest 2
Name		
Address		
Telephone		
Email		
Emergency contact person & telephone		
Any special requirements or requests (especially dietary)		
Room type (please indicate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin (2 beds) <input type="checkbox"/> Double (1 large bed) <input type="checkbox"/> Single supplement (Single occupancy of a double room. Additional AUD 340)	
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 Payments page on our website		

I/we acknowledge the terms and conditions of booking

Signature/s

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guest 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guest 2

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by email, sms or post to:

E: [john@insightstours.com.au](mailto:john@insightstours.com.au)

S: 0429 614 392

P: Insights Tours

PO Box 180 THIRROUL NSW 2515