

10 DAYS | Qld Outback to the Coast



June 23 > July 2 2023

Venture across the alluring landscapes of the Queensland Outback!

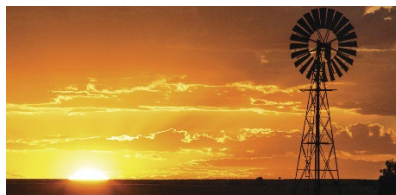
On this tour we will cover more than 2000ks as we travel from Mount Isa in Western Queensland to the Coast at Rockhampton and home via Bundaberg. In between there is some sensational country to see and attractions to visit. Outback Queensland has always been a place for the adventurous, independent, and inventive people to create a life far from the city. It's not hard to see how the lifestyle shaped the famous outback character and why the outback life is so iconic in Australian folklore. Longreach, for example, is the focal point for a whole world of activities that share insights into what it means to be an outback pioneer today. The Kinnon family have lived the outback life of graziers for decades with cattle stations near Longreach. In 2006, they founded Outback Pioneers - Kinnon & Co to diversify and support their outback life through drought. They soon became passionate about sharing the local heritage and lifestyle with visitors and the tourism business has grown to become one of outback Queensland's biggest attractions. On our tour we will meet the family members and experience what this amazing part of Australia has to offer.



CT TRAVEL
Coolum Tours & Travel

10 days - Twin / Double pp \$4590.00
Single \$5380.00
Deposit \$500.00

Inc Airfare – Brisbane > Mt Isa



Day 1: (D) Sunshine Coast > Brisbane > Mt Isa**Friday 23rd June 2023**

Our adventure begins at **Brisbane Airport** with our Virgin Australia Flight direct to **Mount Isa** (VA Flight VA1275 departs Brisbane at 1.25pm/Arrives at 4.15pm). Our coach will be waiting for us, and we will transfer our accommodation.

(Meal Inclusions: Welcome dinner)

IBIS styles Motel, Mount Isa Tel 07 4743 3024 – 2 nights

Day 2: (BD) Exploring Mt Isa**Saturday 24th June 2023**

Good morning travelers! We spend today getting to know the lively outback town of **Mount Isa**. Arriving at the **Outback at Isa** complex we head underground on the thrilling **Hard Times Mine Tour**, letting our guide light the way as we descend to the tunnels in the Alamac cage. Wearing protective clothing, including a miner's cap and lamp, our guide will offer a real insight into a miner's life underground. Back on topsoil you are treated to a 'one-stop shop' offering exciting and diverse activities, from the fascinating Laboratory Tours at the **Riversleigh Fossil Centre** to the inspiring gallery exhibits. After a wonderful day unveiling the secrets of Mount Isa we return to our hotel.

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the motel)

Day 3: (BLD) Mt Isa > Cloncurry**Sunday 25th June 2023**

Here in **Mt Isa**, there is a unique **Underground Hospital and Museum** – and that's where we are heading first thing this morning to uncover the story behind Australia's first and only underground hospital. The **Beth Anderson Museum** here has an impressive collection of antique medical equipment, rare historical items and colourful stories that offer a glimpse into Mount Isa's earlier years. Lunch today is at **Lake Moondara** just 16ks from Mount Isa before our afternoon drive east to **Cloncurry**. Before checking into our accommodation, we visit **John Flynn Place Museum and Art Gallery** – a tribute to John Flynn and the **Royal Flying Doctor Service** which began in Cloncurry in May 1928.

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the motel/picnic lunch)

Gidgee Inn Motel, Cloncurry Tel 07 47421599 – 1 night

Day 4: (BLD) Cloncurry > Winton > Longreach**Monday 26th June 2023**

As we travel south today, we stop at the tiny settlement of **Mackinlay** – population, about 20! We make a brief stop at the iconic Walkabout Creek Hotel – **Crocodile Dundee's!** Then as we continue towards **Winton**, we pass through an area that was once home to dinosaurs - and is full of ground breaking scientific discoveries and archaeological digs. It was here in **Winton**, that Banjo Paterson wrote his famous poem about the swagman and jolly jumbuck and "**Waltzing Matilda**" was heard for the first time in the North Gregory Hotel. We visit the **Waltzing Matilda Centre**, the only museum in the world dedicated to a song. Then, on our way through to Longreach, we make a quick stop at the **Australian Age of Dinosaurs**. The centre hosts the largest collection of Australian dinosaur fossils and the largest fossil perpetration laboratory in the Southern Hemisphere.

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the motel/Light lunch in Winton)

Longreach Tourist Park Tel 07 46582667 – 3 nights

We commence our days touring with a brief sightseeing tour of Longreach and then make our way out to **Nogo Station** that was once part of **Bowen Downs**. Here, we board a double-decker safari style coach for a spectacular tour of the vast plains where wedge-tailed eagles fly and local wildlife mingles with iconic cattle breeds, stockhorses and the famous merino sheep. We stop at a typical outback billabong where **Captain's Starlight's** camp has been recreated and see the ruins of his stockyards, which have been here over a century. Back at the homestead, soak in the station's history as we explore some of the rooms and sense what life would have been like here in the pioneering past.

Learn about women of the homestead, see where Abigail creates her Abigail's Outback Kitchen range and taste some of the treats at the country-style 'smoko' (morning tea)! On arrival back in town we take in the **Harry Redford Old Time Tent Show**. Laugh at the antics of Australia's most famous cattle duffer, Harry Redford or "Captain Starlight" – a mix of poetic story and Australian humour to create live theatre, outback style! With time to wander along the main street of Longreach afterward, we have a relaxing afternoon and look through the **Station Store** for a few souvenirs. Tonight, we are heading out to **Camden Park Station** just a few minutes out of Longreach. Dan and the Walker family will be our hosts for a BBQ dinner in the woolshed at this fifth generation, family sheep and cattle property. It will be a fun night!

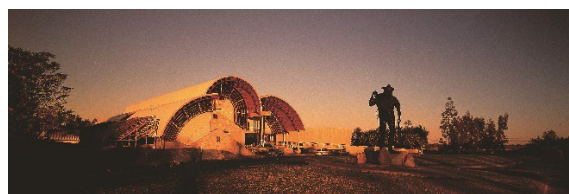
(Meal inclusions: Breakfast at Woolshed Restaurant/BBQ dinner at Camden Park Station)

Following breakfast, we have a short drive to the iconic **Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame** where we can have some free time to look through the museum prior to the **Outback Stockman's Show**. The show encompasses the modern-day aspects of being a stockman, as well as telling the tales of the past. Next, we uncover some national treasures, as we will be visiting the **QANTAS Founders Museum**.

The Museum tells the story of Qantas from the early days in Outback Queensland to present day. Displays focus on the founding figures of Qantas, life in Outback Queensland in the 1920s. Included in our visit is a tour of the **Boeing 747, 707 and DC-3** aircraft and features such as the Lavatory Service Hatch, Traffic Collision Avoidance System, Flight Recorders (the Black Box) and many other systems, all explained in layman's term.

Our **sunset dinner cruise** on the Thompson River will round out a fantastic day. As the sun goes down, the river is a peaceful environment of reflections and colour – perfect for photos. We then step ashore, gather around the crackling fire for tales and bush poetry and watch **Starlight's Spectacular Sound & Light Picture Show**, featuring the adventures of Captain Starlight (aka Harry Redford).

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast at Woolshed Restaurant/Starlight Dinner Cruise)



Day 7: (BLD) Longreach to Emerald**Thursday 29th June 2023**

Departing Longreach this morning we head towards **Barcaldine** for a visit to the Australian **Worker's Heritage Centre**, the only national attraction dedicated to celebrating the lives and proud heritage of ordinary working people. The displays tell the stories of the railway workers and blacksmiths, the farmers, nurses and teachers who shaped the nation. From Barcaldine, it's onto **Alpha** for our lunch. Alpha, known as "The Gateway to the West", is an interesting mix of historic and modern buildings, changed by fire, flood and progress over the years. It was established in 1884 to serve railway construction workers and is still an important station on the line to the Central West. Alpha, taken from the Greek word meaning - "the beginning" - is claimed by locals as the beginning of the west. This afternoon we arrive in **Emerald** where we have planned a visit to **Centenary of Federation Mosaic Pathway** which depicts 100 years of Emerald's history with 21 intricately tiled designs. The detailed mosaics were created by 10 of Emerald's local artists. We also see the 25-metre high Van Gogh Sunflower painting that is part of a concept by Cameron Cross to erect seven Sunflower sculptures in seven different countries, reproducing Van Gogh's seven different Sunflower paintings.

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the motel/Light lunch at Alpha)

Western Gateway Motel, Emerald Tel 07 49131025 – 1 night

Day 8: (BLD) Emerald > Rockhampton**Friday 30th June 2023**

We are now just 370 ks from **Rockhampton** on the East Coast. We travel there this morning, arriving in time for lunch at the **Caves Country Pub**.

This afternoon we have an appointment at the **Capricorn Caves** and will be guided through to the easily accessible **Cathedral Cave**, while discovering the ancient geological history and special acoustics. What an interesting day we have had!

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the motel/Pub lunch)

Centrepont Motor Inn, Rockhampton Tel 07 4927 8844 – 1 Night

Day 9: (BLD) Rockhampton > Gladstone > Bundaberg**Saturday 1st July 2023**

The **City of Gladstone** is built around a natural deep-water port and because of this Gladstone was transformed with the start of a major industrial and community expansion which has continued to this day. We will see why Gladstone is often referred to as the Industrial Land of the Giants! It has the world's largest alumina refinery, Australia's largest aluminium smelter, Queensland's biggest power station, Australia's largest cement operation and the State's largest multi-cargo port. Heading south we pop into the delightful village of **Seventeen Seventy** for a light lunch before continuing to **Bundaberg** for our final night on tour.

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast & dinner in the motel/Light lunch at Seventeen Seventy)

Bundaberg International Motel Tel 07 41512365 – 1 Night

What a tour we have had. We will have a leisurely day travelling home today with a light lunch on the way. We will arrive back on the **Sunshine Coast & Brisbane** late afternoon.

(Meal inclusions: Breakfast in the motel/Light lunch)

Tour Inclusions

- 9 nights accommodation as per the itinerary
- 9 cooked breakfasts, 9 x 2 course dinners & 5 lunches
- Outback at Isa – Hard Hats Mine Tour (Day 2)
- Outback at Isa – Isa Experience & Riversleigh Fossil centre (Day 2)
- Mount Isa Underground Hospital & Museum entry (Day 3)
- Packed lunch at Lake Moondarra (Day 3)
- John Flynn's Place – entry (Day 3)
- Stop at Walkabout Creek Hotel (Day 4)
- Waltzing Matilda Centre – entry/tour (Day 4)
- Waltzing Matilda Centre – light lunch (Day 4)
- Australian Age of Dinosaurs – entry (Day 4)
- Longreach Tourist Park – buffet dinner (Day 4)
- Longreach Tourist Park – breakfast (Day 5)
- Outback Pioneer - Kinnon & Co – Nogo Station Experience (Day 5)
- Outback Pioneer - Kinnon & Co – Harry Redford Old Time Show (Day 5)
- Camden Park Station – tour/1st drink/BBQ dinner (Day 5)
- Longreach Tourist Park – breakfast (Day 6)
- Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame – Stockman's Experience (Day 6)
- QANTAS Founders Outback Museum – entry (Day 6)
- Lunch own arrangements at QANTAS Founders Museum (Day 6)
- Starlights Dinner Cruise (Day 6)
- Longreach Tourist Park – Breakfast (Day 7)
- Australian Workers Heritage Centre, Barcaldine (Day 7)
- Lunch own arrangements & cost at Alpha (Day 7)
- Stop at Centenary of Federation Mosaic Pathway Emerald (Day 7)
- The Caves Country Pub, Rockhampton – pub lunch (Day 8)
- Capricorn Caves – Cathedral Cave Tour (Day 8)
- 1770 Marina Cafe – light lunch (Day 9)
- Light lunch (Day 10)

The itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, CT Travel reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. CT Travel will not be held responsible for weather-based cancellations, or those closures made at a venue's discretion.

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