

ADELAIDE TO COOBER PEDY

7 Day – Small Group 4WD Eco Safari

Includes Outback SA, William Creek, Lake Eyre & Flinders Ranges.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ✓ Historic Coastal towns
- ✓ Pt Augusta Wadlata Outback Centre
- ✓ Coober Pedy Mine tour
- ✓ Coober Pedy Underground accommodation
- ✓ Remote William Creek pub
- ✓ Dingo Fence
- ✓ Beltana historic Town
- ✓ Brachina & Bunyerroo Gorges
- ✓ Wilpena Pound
- ✓ Melrose Settled 1853
- ✓ Southern Flinders Ranges
- ✓ Woomera Rocket Range
- ✓ Sunset at the Breakaways
- ✓ Search for opal
- ✓ The Oodnadatta Track
- ✓ Maree Old Mail Run, relics
- ✓ Leigh Creek Coal Fields
- ✓ Ediacaran fossils
- ✓ Flinders Ranges National Park
- ✓ Clare Valley wine tasting.

DAY 1

8am: Adelaide pick up from your accommodation then head north along the eastern side of Spencer Gulf stopping at historical coastal towns. Learn our rich maritime history maybe take a walk down the longest wooden jetty in the Southern Hemisphere at Port Germain. This was once a bustling port for sail ships & sea farers. Enjoy a picnic lunch at Mt Remarkable National Park surrounded by stunning 600 million year old rock formations and home to an abundance of native wildlife. If you enjoy bushwalking, we will take you on a short guided walk along beautiful tree-lined creek beds with spectacular views over the area. (Optional)

Continue our journey along the western side of the mighty Flinders Ranges to Port Augusta & the tip of Spencer Gulf. Spend the afternoon strolling around the award winning Wadlata Outback Centre. Soak up our outback history through the excellent displays.

Overnight: Port Augusta Motel

Meals:

(L) Included: Picnic Lunch

(D) Own Expense: Local Pub Meal

DAY 2

Travel up the Explorer Highway to Woomera and visit the old rocket range and Military Base. As we head North, East of the A.P.Y. aboriginal lands take a break at the lookouts and get photos of Lake Gairdner and Lake Heart Salt Lakes.

Onto Coober Pedy the largest opal mining field in the world. Heading into town we will pass the extensive mining operations that help make this place so unique. Coober Pedy is a town where people live underground to escape the harsh desert conditions. Homes are mined out of the rock and provide an average temperature of 18°C.

Go underground on a guided mine tour and see how these hardy folks live. Enjoy a cold beer while watching a magical outback sunset at the Breakaways before following the dog fence back to Coober Pedy.

Overnight: Underground accommodation at The Desert Cave, the only international underground hotel, allows you to experience dug out style living. It is the experience of a lifetime. Underground accommodation, shops, cafe, bar and display areas all within beautiful soft, natural sandstone surrounds, relax in the spa. Enjoy the cool comfort of underground shopping.

Meals:

(B) Included: Continental

(L) Own expense: Lunch at road house

(D) Included: Pizza at Local Italian Restaurant. (Other choices at own expense)

DAY 3

Spend a leisurely morning visiting underground churches and other places of interest. After lunch we depart Coober Pedy for William Creek. You will cross the famous dingo fence (The longest man made structure in the world. This helps to keep the wild dogs up north away from the sheep stations further down.) Travel along the red sand hill tracks through Anna Creek station arriving at the remote William Creek Hotel and settle into your comfortable cabin. William Creek Hotel stands out like an oasis in the desert along the Oodnadatta Track, about halfway from Oodnadatta to Marree and halfway from Adelaide to Alice Springs. The William Creek Hotel was built in 1887 to service the Ghan railway. Enjoy an ice cold beer at the bar of this famous Outback Pub that has a rich history of stockman, camels and life in the bush.

Overnight: William Creek Cabin

Optional extra: Flight over Lake Eyre

Meals:

(B) Included : Continental

(L) Own expense: Café

(D) Included: Aussie Barbeque and campfire.

DAY 4

Continue our epic journey down the famous Oodnadatta Track, following the historic route of the Cameleers and the Old Ghan Railway. This area has a rich history of Aboriginal culture and pioneering settlements, including many ghost towns. Check out Lake Eyre South, which at its lowest point is 11m below sea level with the Lake Eyre Basin approximately the size of Belgium. This is where Sir Donald Campbell broke the land speed record in 1964 in The Blue Bird. Visit thermal springs that have been the life blood of this arid land for centuries.

Arrive at Marree, the historic outback town which marks the start of the famous Birdsville track. See the old Afghan mosque and relics of our pioneering days.

Located in the picturesque Northern Flinders Ranges discover our region's natural beauty and rich heritage at Beltana Station. It covers nearly half a million acres and is a fully working sheep and cattle station. Beltana station was first surveyed in 1854 and has played a part in South Australia's early history. Accommodation consists of historic shearer's quarters (circa 1860).

Overnight: Beltana Homestead

Meals:

(B) Included: Continental

(L) Included: Picnic lunch Included

(D) Included: Traditional roast saltbush lamb dinner with all the trimmings in the old woolshed.

DAY 5

This morning we travel a few Kilometres east and explore the old Beltana Township with its well preserved old Ghan railway station. This is where Rev John Flynn of the inland mission lived. Then follow the bush track along the old railway track to the Prairie Hotel at Parachilna.

Enjoy a coffee at The Prairie Hotel which has embraced the old with the new and brought a stunning new dimension to outback hospitality without compromise to the character of the historic old pub. Lunch will be on route and a picnic style lunch held within the gorges.

Wonder around the old Copper mining town of Blinman with its Pug and Pine cottages. Then onto one of the Outback's unique icons, Wilpena Pound where the flora is diverse and wildlife abundant.

Overnight: Wilpena Pound Resort.

Meals:

(B) Included: Cooked/Continental

(L) Included: Picnic

(D) Included: Resort Bistro

DAY 6

You will have the opportunity to take a guided walk following the tree-lined creek beds to Wangara Lookout that offers magnificent views into the pound itself. Explore the ancient mountain ranges including Bunyerroo and Brachina Gorges (also called the Corridors through Time). Become a geologist for the day and view some of the oldest rock formations in the world including fossils from the Ediacara Period, the beginning of life on earth! As the sun becomes low in the sky we will follow the road through a landscape of absolute beauty. Wildlife including Kangaroos, Emus and Wedge Tailed Eagles are prolific in this rugged terrain and are usually spotted in abundance in the late afternoon.

Optional Extra: 30 minute flight over Wilpena Pound.

Overnight: Wilpena Pound Resort.

Meals:

(B) Included: Fully cooked buffet

(L) Included: Picnic

(D) Included: Resort Bistro

DAY 7

Enjoy a well-deserved sleep-in departing Wilpena Pound at approx. 9 am. Visit Hawker and Quorn where many a classic Aussie film has been made including Sunday Too Far away Breaker Morant.

Head down through the magnificent Southern Flinders Ranges with its mighty Red Gum forests to Melrose, the oldest town, settled in 1853. Check out the historic buildings such as the Old Outback Police Station, Gaol, Court House and Jaccas Brewery. Getting closer to Adelaide we pass through lovely old townships of Mid-North South Australia and the beautiful wine region of Clare Valley. If time permits try a taste of the local drop!

Arriving back in Adelaide at approximately 6.00pm you will have life-long memories to share with family and friends about Coober Pedy, The Flinders Ranges & Outback South Australia.

Meals:

(B) Included: Fully cooked buffet

(L) Included: Cafe

Code (B) (L) (D) indicates the meals that are included.

*Optional extras are on request and can only be booked while on tour!

Advertised itineraries & vehicles may change due to circumstances beyond our control.