

ADELAIDE ~ COOBER PEDY ~ LAKE EYRE ARKARoola & FLINDERS RANGES

7-Day Small Group Outback Eco Safari

WILDLIFE ~ WILDERNESS ~ CULTURE
Nature-based ~ No Rush ~ Enjoy

Departs Adelaide first and third Tuesday of every month

Includes: Pt Augusta, Woomera, Coober Pedy, William Creek. Lake Eyre South. The Oodnadatta track, Marree, Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, Wilpena Pound & Flinders Ranges, Clare Valley

Numerous flights are on offer from William Creek & Marree over Lake Eyre / Birdsville, the Painted Hills, Arkaroola, Flinders Ranges and more.

- ~ Pick-up/drop-off at your Adelaide CBD accommodation ~
- ~ Local SA tour company with 36 years of experience ~
 - ~ Professional, accredited tour guide/driver ~
 - ~ Comfortable, air-conditioned outback vehicles ~
 - ~ Latest communication & safety equipment ~

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ✓ Most meals included
- ✓ Historic coastal towns
- ✓ Pt Augusta Wadlata Outback Centre
- ✓ Woomera Rocket Range
- ✓ Coober Pedy Mine & town tour
- ✓ Sunset at the Breakaways
- ✓ Remote William Creek Pub
- ✓ The Dingo Fence
- ✓ Lake Eyre South -Kati Thanda
- ✓ The famous Oodnadatta Track
- ✓ Marree Old Mail Run relics & Afghan Mosque
- ✓ Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park
- ✓ Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary
- ✓ Wilpena Pound / Flinders National Park
- ✓ Brachina Gorge Ediacaran fossils Bushwalking
- ✓ Clare Valley

Fresh fruit, water, and snacks are always carried in our vehicles for your use.

DAY 1

Complimentary pick up from your Adelaide CBD accommodation at approximately 8 am. Heading north along the Eastern side of Gulf St Vincent, you will be entertained with stories about our early explorers.

Follow the Gulf St Vincent and Spencer Gulf, stopping at historical coastal towns. Learn our rich maritime history and see one of the longest wooden jetties in the Southern Hemisphere at Port Germein, as well the old lighthouse (first erected at the end of the jetty in 1894, replacing the original Port Germain Lightship) and other relics of a bygone era. This was once a bustling port for sail ships and seafarers.

During the safari tour your guide will introduce you to a remarkable and resilient history of both aboriginal and white settlements in SA. Travel through the lands of the Kurna and Nukuna people. See the Southern Flinders Ranges' 600-million-year-old mountain peaks with spectacular views over this incredible landscape.

Spend the afternoon strolling around the award-winning Wadlata Outback Centre at Pt Augusta. Later in the afternoon we go out to the outskirts of town to the Flinders Lookout; situated in the Australian Arid Lands Botanical Garden, it's a great spot to watch the sun set over the spectacular Flinders Ranges.

Overnight:

Port Augusta Motel.

Meals:

(L) A picnic or café lunch is included.

(D) Dinner at a local pub is at your own expense.

DAY 2

Travel up the Explorer Highway into the outback desert region of South Australia. Wander around Woomera at your own pace, visiting the old rocket range museum and military base.

As we head further north, east of the APY Aboriginal lands, take a break at Lake Gairdner and Lake Hart lookouts. Photograph these huge expanses of salt lake as far as the eye can see. No need to rush, we stop at many points of interest including bird and animal watching.

On to Coober Pedy, the largest opal mining field in the world, where characters from many nations have come to try to make their fortune. 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. Coober Pedy / kupa piti is an Aboriginal word translated as 'water hole' or 'white man in a hole'.

Watch a magical sunset over the desert at Kanku-Breakaways Conservation Park before following the Dingo Fence back to Coober Pedy for a meal with the locals.

The Aboriginal people who traditionally lived in Coober Pedy are the Arabana and Antakirinja peoples. The Antakirinja language is part of the Western desert language group while the Arabana people, with strong ties to the region, have a Karnic language.

Overnight:

Coober Pedy Underground Motel.

Meals:

(B) A continental breakfast is included.

(L) Lunch at the Glendambo roadhouse is at your own expense.

(D) Dinner at a local Italian or Greek restaurant, or the Big Winch hilltop restaurant, at your own expense.

DAY 3

Spend a leisurely morning visiting underground churches, opal shops and displays in Coober Pedy. Learn about the area on a guided underground mine tour. Witness how these hardy folks live and make their living.

After lunch we depart Coober Pedy, crossing the famous Dingo Fence (the longest man-made structure in the world). It helps to keep the wild dingos up north away from the sheep stations further down south.

Travel along the red sand hill tracks through Anna Creek Station. At 23,677 square kilometers in size, it is the largest cattle station in the world. On to William Creek – with a current permanent population of six outback characters! This remote town stands out like an oasis in the desert, halfway between Adelaide and Alice Springs on the old Afghan route.

Enjoy an ice-cold beer at the bar of this famous outback pub that has a rich history of stockmen, camels and life in the bush.

Overnight:

William Creek Cabin.

Meals:

(B) A continental breakfast is included.

(L) Lunch at a café or bakery is included.

(D) An outback pub meal for dinner is included.

DAY 4

Continue our epic journey down the famous Oodnadatta Track, following the historic route of the cameleers. This area has a rich history of Aboriginal culture and pioneering settlements.

Stop at the viewing point on the edge of Lake Eyre South National Park. Take some time and read the display boards that highlight points of interest of the Great Artesian Basin. This is where Sir Donald Campbell broke the land speed record in 1964 in the Bluebird.

Visit thermal springs and deserted outposts that have been the lifeblood of this arid land for centuries.

Arriving at Marree late afternoon, check out the old Afghan mosque and relics of our pioneering days. This historic town is where outback legend Tom Kruse left on his epic mail run deliveries to Birdsville and beyond. Tom's old 4WD Blitz is still there on display next to an old locomotive from the Ghan Railway days.

You might also meet one of the aboriginal elders at the Arabuuna aboriginal center and museum.

Optional Extras:

1-hour Lake Eyre scenic flight

\$500 per person

2-hour Lake Eyre Deluxe scenic flight

\$830 per person

3-hour Lake Eyre & Painted Desert scenic flight, touching down in the painted desert.

\$980 per person

4.5-hour Lake Eyre & Birdsville flood waters flight, touching down for lunch at the Birdsville hotel.

\$1,995 per person

Overnight:

Marree Cabins.

Meals:

(B) A fully cooked or continental breakfast at the William Creek Hotel is included.

(L) Lunch is included.

(D) Dinner at the legendary Marree Outback Restaurant is included.

DAY 5

Venturing further east into the remote outback of Australia, we will cross ancient creek beds that wind their way out to Lake Frome. Witness a stunning change in the landscape from spectacular deserts to the ancient mountains of the Gammon Range.

Arriving at the Arkaroola Village, you will have time to relax and take in this world-renowned area of stunning beauty. Alternatively, take the exhilarating 4WD Ridgetop Tour to the top of Mt Siller, or maybe a scenic flight over this breathtaking land.

Later in the afternoon, you might want to explore, walk, or photograph the area around Arkaroola Village. Take time to birdwatch along one of the well-defined tracks that meander through the tree-lined creek beds. These are home to Yellow-Footed Rock Wallabies, Echidnas, Reptiles, Parrots, Finches and much more.

Arkaroola is one of Australia's outstanding geological "hot spots" with rocks dating back 1.6 billion years. It has natural arid landscapes, including steep ridges, red gorges and secluded water holes. This 610 sq km wilderness sanctuary was founded by the Sprigg family in 1968.

If available, meet the world-renowned geologist Doug Sprigg himself, owner of Arkaroola. He and his family continue to operate to this day with a strong emphasis on science, education and conservation. Your participation in coming here will enable them as custodians to preserve this priceless and unique wilderness, and its inhabitants, into the future.

Optional Extras:

1.5-hour Lake Eyre scenic flight from Marree.

\$695 per person

The Famous Arkaroola 4WD Ridgetop Tour (departs 1 pm)

\$250 per person

Night sky observatory experience

\$85 per person

Overnight:

Arkaroola Wilderness Lodge.

Meals:

(B) A fully cooked or continental breakfast is included.

(L) Lunch at the Arkaroola Café is included.

(D) Dinner at the Arkaroola Resort Restaurant is included.

DAY 6

Travel south along the top of Lake Frome, seen in the distance from vantage points where early explorers once stood. See the Red Sandhill country that holds thousands of years of sacred beliefs to the Adnyamathanha aboriginal people.

Enjoy lunch at the old copper mining town of Blinman. At 610 meters above sea level it is the highest town in SA.

Our local guide will drive you on a wonderful journey through the secluded and ever-changing creek beds of Brachina Gorge, known as the "Corridors Through Time". This is an area alive with wildlife and boasts a remarkable geological history including Ediacaran fossils. World-renowned South Australian painter, Sir Hans Heysen, was inspired by this country and painted many of his landscapes here.

Take that special photograph or just enjoy some of the most spectacular outback scenery there is.

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 the late afternoon.

Optional Extras:

35-minute flight over Arkaroola

\$295 per person

45-minute flight over Lake Frome

\$390 per person

75-minute flight over Arkaroola & Lake Frome

\$595 per person

2-hour flight over "2 Lakes & 2 Deserts"

\$950 per person

Overnight:

Wilpena Pound Resort.

Meals:

(B) A fully cooked or continental breakfast is included.

(L) Lunch at the Blinman Café is included.

(D) A 2-course open-menu lunch at the Wilpena Pound Resort Restaurant is at your own expense.

DAY 7

Spend a relaxing morning travelling back to Adelaide along the eastern side of the Flinders Ranges with its mighty Red Gum forests. Crossing Goyder's Line, the boundary of reliable rainfall, you will see lands that change into a lush expanse of rich rural landscape.

The mid-north towns offer a blend of beautiful scenery, historical charm and thriving agriculture. Let's find a lovely country café for lunch where you can meet the locals and have a chat.

In the afternoon stop at the world-famous Clare Valley wine region, one of the premium wine regions of South Australia! Seven Hills Cellars was built by the Jesuits in 1851. It was the first winery ever built in the Clare Valley and is one of the oldest in Australia. Seven Hills celebrates old stone winery and cellar door; stately St Aloysius Church and the surrounding vineyards provide us with a memorable experience. Wine tastings are formatted into a flight of five Premium or Standard wines if you are interested in tasting the Local drop!

Optional Extras:

If you would like to see Wilpena Pound in all its glory, take to the air in a light aircraft on a scenic flight. This is the only way to really appreciate this world-famous 800-million-year-old SA icon that the local Adnyamathanha people call Ikara.

30-minute Wilpena Pound & Flinders Ranges scenic flight

\$300 per person

45-minute Wilpena Pound & Flinders Ranges scenic flight

\$420 per person

60-minute Wilpena Pound & Flinders Ranges scenic flight

\$555 per person

Meals:

(B) A fully cooked or continental breakfast at the Wilpena Pound Resort is included.

(L) Lunch at a café or bakery is included.

No doubt you will leave this journey with life-long memories to share with family and friends about your journey to the Flinders Ranges & Outback Australia!

*Help us give back to and preserve this priceless and unique wilderness,
including its inhabitants, into the future*

The (B) (L) and (D) codes indicate which meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner) are included in your tour price and which meals are at the passenger's own expense.

Alcohol is available at accommodation/dining locations in the evenings but is not included during this tour.

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

PRICING

Standard Motel Unit, Single	\$6,350 per person
Standard Motel Unit, Double/Twin Share	\$6,250 per person
Standard Motel Unit, Child 5-16 sharing with parent	\$4,950 per person
Superior Motel Unit, Single	\$6,750 per person
Superior Motel Unit, Double/Twin Share	\$6,650 per person
Superior Motel Unit, Child 5-16 sharing with parent	\$5,050 per person

Early bookings are essential to be able to secure the limited accommodation.

Optional extras/flights are on request and can only be booked with SA ECO TOURS.

Please note that outback travel requires a degree of flexibility, good humour, and an understanding that the advertised itineraries, accommodation, and/or modes of transport may change, even after a tour's commencement, without prior notice due to circumstances beyond our control. We always do our best to deliver a full and enjoyable experience!

We recommend all passengers take out travel insurance to cover any unavoidable situations in which cancellations occur and alternative arrangements cannot be made.

